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**Part 10 of 10**

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Deseret Morning News (Salt Lake City)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**LENGTH:** 624 words**HEADLINE:** Travel dollars stretch far with \$8 dinners – even in Las Vegas**BYLINE:** Valerie Phillips Deseret Morning News**BODY:**

Food Network host Rachael Ray travels around finding "Great Eats on \$40 a Day," according to the title of her book and TV series. Well, I could call my family's spring vacation "Great Eats on \$8 a Dinner."

Here's my tale of three great meals, each around \$8:

Bright Angel Restaurant, Grand Canyon: After a four-mile hike on the Bright Angel Trail, we headed for some refreshment in the nearby lodge. The Adobo Chicken Sandwich, a grilled chicken breast marinated in spicy adobo, topped with a chunky guacamole and pepper jack cheese, hit the spot. It came with thick-cut french fries, for \$7.95. I thought it was a great buy, until I saw an old menu from the early 1900s framed on the wall. A halibut dinner for 90 cents! (Of course, wages were a lot less then, too.)

Mr. Lucky's 24/7, Hard Rock Hotel, Las Vegas: I discovered this coffee shop's "steak and shrimp special" in 2000, when it was \$5.99. Now, at the lucky number of \$7.77, it's still about the only thing in Vegas I'll bet on. It's not listed on the menu — you just have to ask for it. You get a salad of crisp romaine lettuce, a juicy 8-ounce sirloin strip steak, a skewer of three grilled shrimp and a pile of garlic mashed potatoes (you can't sub fries or a baked potato — that's just how it comes, the server told us).

While waiting for your meal, you can browse all the memorabilia scattered around the hotel — display cases devoted to the Beatles and Elvis; outfits worn by Mick Jagger, Sheryl Crow and Sarah McLachlan; Carlos Santana's snakeskin suit with original Woodstock tickets (\$6 per day!); a drum set from Blink 182's Travis Barker — and lots of stuff from rockers better known to my teenage kids.

Sunset Station's Around the World Buffet, Henderson, Nev.: We'd spent the day kayaking on the Colorado River but had just enough stamina left to indulge in this \$7.99 econo-meal at our hotel. Fortunately, this buffet was nothing like the chow line of weird casseroles and rubbery Jell-O shown in "Vegas Vacation," the 1997 Chevy Chase movie.

In a departure from the cafeteria mentality, there were separate stations featuring Chinese, Mexican, Italian, Barbecue and American specialties. My 17-year-old son, Eric, called it a dream come true. We thought he and our 15-year-old, Lon, would single-handedly bankrupt Nevada's gaming industry — or at least eat each other under the table — as they feasted on egg rolls, pasta Alfredo, ribs, tacos and more, followed by a root-beer float "sudden death" match. Luckily, no one exploded. Lon called the episode "A Fridge Too Far."

But probably the most memorable meal was the picnic lunch we shared while kayaking on the Colorado River below Hoover Dam. Being somewhat paddle-impaired, I had trouble getting to shore while fighting the river's current and the outcropping of rocks.

A man sitting on the shore directed me to an easier inlet on the other side of the rocks, even wading out in the water to help my husband pull me in. His name was George, and he was a sea captain — after dealing with big tankers, my little kayak was nothing.

George said he'd had a miserable time visiting the Las Vegas Strip — "I spent more money in three days than I make in three weeks, and nobody was nice unless they wanted your money."

So he hiked into the canyon and camped along the river for a couple days. He told us how to hike up to some pools of

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hot springs and saved our gear from being swept away in the river while we were gone. We urged him to eat with us, but he was content with only a couple of turkey slices for his sandwich, a brownie and a drink. But he did allow us to slather him with sunscreen. Then we got back on the river, leaving him to the peaceful canyon, fresh air and a good book. E-mail: [vphillips@desnews.com](mailto:vphillips@desnews.com)

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May 11, 2005 Wednesday

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**HEADLINE:** Q1 2005 CryptoLogic Inc. Earnings Conference Call - Final

**BODY:**

**OPERATOR:** Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the CryptoLogic first-quarter 2005 financial results conference call. I would like to turn the meeting over to Mr. Lewis Rose, President and Chief Executive Officer. Please go ahead, Mr. Rose.

**LEWIS ROSE, PRESIDENT, CEO, CRYPTOLOGIC, INC.:** Thank you. Welcome, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for joining us today for CryptoLogic's 2005 first-quarter conference call. I'm Lewis Rose, President and Chief Executive Officer of CryptoLogic. With me today are Jenifer Cua, our Interim Chief Financial Officer, and Nancy Chan-Palmateer, our Director of Communications.

After a year of achieving strong results and initiating major investments for the future, we continued this momentum into 2005 with excellent returns. We also reaffirmed our position as the blue-chip e-gaming software company. In the first quarter, CryptoLogic again achieved record revenue, strong earnings growth and healthy cash flow, all by maintaining our disciplined, focused approach in the fast-growing Internet, casino and poker markets.

CryptoLogic's first-quarter revenue grew 33% to \$20.3 million. We netted a 27% increase in earnings to \$4.8 million, and this amounted to \$0.34 per diluted share.

CryptoLogic's market strength was further highlighted this year when we were added to the main S&P/TSX composite index, as you know, the premier benchmark for Canadian equity markets. In the UK, we expanded our shareholder base by attracting a number of prominent institutional investors.

Our success comes down to three core imperatives that are working for us — first, international diversification, which means maximizing opportunities in the highest-growth markets worldwide; second, market-oriented products, which means helping our customers profit from the games their players wish to play; and third, regulatory leadership, which demonstrates our dedication to integrity and transparency, raising the bar in the Online gaming industry.

Let me now speak to how staying this course has continued to help us realize our growth in the most recent quarter. First, we continue to see that the benefits of a geographically diversified business — thanks to our strong presence in key markets worldwide. That resulted, as you've seen, in revenue generated from licensees international players rising to more than 65% of first-quarter revenue, up from over 60% in 2004. In particular, this quarter, the UK and European markets each grew to account for more than 30% of total first-quarter revenue.

As part of our global strategy, CryptoLogic recently released Version 6 of our casino software to key European markets, and players now can enjoy a larger game variety in their native languages, including Spanish, French, Italian and German.

So, what we've done is focus on a small number of high-quality international customers. This is proving to be the right strategy for CryptoLogic. For some time, we have emphasized ROE, or what we call Return On Effort, philosophy to focus our business decisions on those opportunities that generate the highest return in exchange for our time and effort. That's why, in the first quarter, we reduced our licensee basis by another two, who together represented less than 1% of

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total revenue. So we now have nine core licensees, all of whom continue to grow.

Second, success in the competitive global Online gaming industry also means delivering market-oriented products to help our licensees develop loyal players. Internet gamers play more often than their land-based counterparts, and it's easier and more convenient than a destination stop of land-based casinos. As a result, Online gamers demand new games and fresh concepts more frequently to keep them interested and coming back. That's why we continue to invest in new games and enhancements of both our Internet poker and Internet casino software.

The buzz just continues to build around Internet poker and for good reason. The experts predict that Internet poker should continue its spectacular momentum and increase more than 100% in 2005. Our licensees central poker room continues to reach new heights in popularity, and the central room now attracts more than 6,000 simultaneous Online players. According to poker polls, the independent web site which tracks the Online poker industry, from the first quarter of 2004 to the first quarter of 2005, the industry grew 115%, while our licensees grew more than 200%. In fact, I've just received and seen some fresh numbers for April, and the top five poker rooms which now represent about 80% of the market — and of those top five poker rooms, our licensees room grew the fastest over the past year. For CryptoLogic, this is very exciting news, and that's why we continue to invest in our poker software and network scalability to support our licensees' growth.

A contributing factor was the release of innovative features, including our new six-seat poker tournament option. We call this commencement SIXPAK. It's our brand, our trademark, and it gives Online poker players exciting "final-table" action throughout an entire tournament in every hand. SIXPAK also expands our licensees' tournament strategy and provides great marketing draw for players.

Now, if poker is the sizzle of Internet gaming, then casino is the steak, and some say that the Internet casino business is more established and maturing. Well, there's no question that the segment is more developed and growing at a more moderate pace after a decade of tremendous growth. Yet, Internet casino still has tremendous room to grow, accounting for less than 5% of the world's land-based casino markets.

In the first quarter, Internet casino continued to be a strong cash contributor for CryptoLogic. This segment grew 6% over Q1 2004 revenue, and we continue to enjoy solid performance by offering innovative and market-targeted games. For example, we led the way last quarter with the first introduction ever of "Fruit Machines" on the Internet. This week, we announced an exclusive, five-year licensing agreement to be the first to bring play-for-real slot version of Bejeweled to the Internet. Bejeweled, as you are probably aware, is one of the most popular online games on sites such as AOL, Yahoo! and MSN, and it will be an exciting addition to our product offering scheduled for release this fall.

Third, our regulatory leadership has remained steadfast. We've consistently advocated a regulated and transparent Online gambling environment for the protection of players and for the credibility of our industry. We're seeing positive developments. In April, the UK, one of the premier markets for CryptoLogic and one of the world's most developed nations, took a historic step. The British government enacted a law to regulate Online gaming for the first time on its soil. CryptoLogic welcomed this landmark event to establish world-class standards for responsible, Online gaming entertainment. This marks a major milestone in our view, although there are many steps ahead before we see the final rules and regulatory framework. Given our regulatory experience, we will seek every opportunity to provide input to foster a commercially competitive regulatory environment in the UK. The first license applications are expected to be accepted in 2006 with licenses granted and the new regime underway by 2007.

Now, in the U.S., the picture is still not clear, even though recent developments highlight how some U.S. policymakers have taken a different direction in other parts of the world. For example, the World Trade Organization has pointed out the inconsistency of American efforts to ban Online gaming. It's interesting. On the other hand, a growing number of states, such as North Dakota, Illinois and Georgia, have proposed regulation of certain forms of Online gaming. Nonetheless, federal legislation seeks prohibition — sorry, federal legislation that seeks prohibition is expected to reemerge again shortly. This continued uncertainty validates CryptoLogic's European focus, and the reality is that CryptoLogic stands as one of the few providers in the world where software has already passed the world's highest regulatory tests. This gives us a competitive advantage as more jurisdictions make the sensible choice to regulate Online gaming.

Before Jenifer speaks to our financials, I want to advise you that we have just completely settled the WebSports claim to CryptoLogic's satisfaction and with no material effect. This now closes the WebSports matter.

It's now my pleasure to turn the call over to Jenifer Cua, who will speak to our first-quarter results.

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JENIFER CUA, INTERIM CFO, CRYPTOLOGIC, INC.: Hello. I am pleased to speak to highlights of our first-quarter results for 2005. Please note that all figures are in U.S. dollars.

Revenue for the first quarter of 2005 increased 33% to \$20.3 million, versus \$15.2 million for the same period last year, marking a new record for CryptoLogic. Internet poker continued to be a significant growth driver. Fees from this segment jumped more than 200% over Q1 of 2004. As well, Internet casino revenue continued to perform solidly and grew 6% over the same period last year.

Operating costs were \$12.8 million for the quarter, compared to 9 million in Q1 of 2004. Higher expenses arose from several initiatives, including the following — developing and integrating new casino games, enhancing our poker software, enhancing the capacity and resiliency of our poker system, improving our back-office offering, and augmenting our e-cash management system. Given the early returns we are achieving from our major investment program initiated last year, it is clear that this type of strategic investment is important to accommodate our growth. To that end, we're making further enhancements. This extends our investment program to the end of the year, now planned at \$12.5 million. More than 65% or \$8.4 million of this program has been invested to date. This included 3.2 million in operating costs, another 3.2 million for purchases of capital assets, and \$2 million for capitalized software development related to the program. Also, growing transaction volumes arising from the growing business resulted in increased processing fees.

Even with higher expenditures, we delivered solid EBITDA and net margins of 29 and 24% respectively. This compared to 30% and 25% in Q1 of 2004.

In the quarter, we added to our strong balance sheet. At March 31, 2005, we had no debt. Our cash reserves grew to \$90.2 million or \$6.35 per diluted share. Working capital rose to \$70.3 million or \$4.96 per diluted share.

Operating cash flow for the first quarter of 2005 was \$2.6 million versus \$5.1 million for the same period last year. The decline was primarily due to the following — increased receivables resulting from two licensees responsible for their own e-cash processing, prepayment of royalty licensing these for new games in development, and reduce payables and accruals.

Looking ahead, we estimate capital expenditures for the full year of 2005 to be \$12 million, of which 35% relates to our normal-course investment. The balance includes a move to a new office premises later this year to accommodate our growing organization, as well as the remaining portion of our major investment program to be capitalized.

We've continued to foresee strong growth in both top of bottom-line performance. For the second quarter, we forecast revenue in the range of 19.2 to \$19.6 million with earnings of 4.2 to \$4.4 million, or \$0.29 to \$0.30 per diluted share. This guidance assumes 14.5 million weighted fully diluted shares outstanding.

I will now turn the call back to Lewis.

LEWIS ROSE: Thank you, Jenifer. We would be pleased to take questions at this time.

OPERATOR: We will now begin the question-and-answer session. (OPERATOR INSTRUCTIONS) Brian Kinstlinger from Sidoti Capital.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER, ANALYST, SIDOTI & CO.: The first question I wanted to talk about were the investments. I wanted to see how the remainder of the \$12.5 million, what's left, plays out in the three quarters, so that's an even (ph) across. Then if revenue continues to ramp as it has, will 2006 bring on an additional investment plan in order to capitalize on the future of growth there?

LEWIS ROSE: The answer to the first question is — how much has been spent and how much is remaining? Of the major capital program, 12.5 million, we've spent approximately 8.4 million, or about two-thirds, so the balance will be over the — (multiple speakers).

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: Evenly? Evenly in the three quarters?

JENIFER CUA: Pretty much so, Brian.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: The second question was, if revenue continues to ramp as it has, do you expect to initiate a new plan in 2006 that will further pressure margins a little bit of where they possibly could be, or do you think the investments will be able (sic) to cease at that point?

LEWIS ROSE: Right. Well, there's no question that staying competitive in the business will require continued

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investment. If we continue to experience and benefit from the significant growth we've achieved to date, we will continue to invest to accommodate further growth. Obviously, we've seen the industry continue to expand dramatically, and we have to ensure that we can maintain the pace of growth of the industry for CryptoLogic and our shareholders. We will be prudent. It's premature at this point for us to predict what the investment program is going to be through the end of next year, but what we can say is that we expect that we will continue to invest prudently and appropriately to ensure that we maintain the growth opportunities we have in front of us.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: Sure. If I look your second-quarter guidance, when I look historically at your business, there's obviously been seasonality in the second quarter, which has had some weakness — and you document that. I'm wondering if that could turn a little bit, going forward, given the seasonal nature of your tournament and poker software, which some of it you didn't have last year and now we're headed into the World Series of Poker here. The offerings, as I look on your sites, there's a ton of tournaments. Maybe casino would be seasonally weak but would poker necessarily be seasonally weak in this second quarter here?

LEWIS ROSE: That is a very astute comment, Brian. Our view is that poker is expected to continue to grow. You remember that our experience with casinos spans ten years, so we have significant casino experience. Our casino story is a significant contributor to our revenues, so we do expect seasonal impact from the casino business. From poker, we do hope, though, that business will continue to grow.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: That's how I see it. A couple of questions — it sounds like you said you lost — you didn't lose necessarily, you ceased your relationship with two clients. I missed — how much of revenue did those account for? Do you see any more chances of pairing clients?

The second question to that — I saw, in your 10-K, something you haven't really talked about lately is some new client opportunities, the whales that you talk about. You know, what's out there right now? What are the potential losses that you maybe planned to have, going forward?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, let's answer each of the three individually. The first question — what is the impact on revenue of the termination of the two licensees that occurred in the first quarter? The answer is less than 1% of revenue, so clearly not material.

The second question is — are we expecting further reductions in the number of licensees? The answer is no. At this point, we have nine licensees, all of whom have growth potential, so certainly, in the short term, we don't anticipate any reduction in the number of licensees.

The third question was about new customer opportunities. As you correctly point out, we've made it quite clear that we're going to focus on a limited number of high-quality, profitable, growth-oriented customers who have the brand name that works on the Internet, that have a database of customers that are fertile for our type of business. The third element is that they have both the marketing funds and the commitment to marketing to grow.

We've also said publicly that we would focus on and be happy with signing one or two large international brand-name licensees each year. As you know, our growth plans for this year are not contingent on signing new licensees. But you are also correct in saying that we are effectively looking for "whales". The new licensees will only be signed if they meet the stringent criteria. We've had numerous approaches from all sorts of shapes and sizes of organizations who would be interested in licensing our software, but as we've said many times, that our resources are as a scarce resource and we want to focus very much on high-quality international brand-name licensees.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: So can I characterize that as the pipeline for what you call whales is picking up compared to maybe where you were six months ago, or is that not accurate?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, no, we always have a pipeline of whales. It's a question of the sales lead cycle. Obviously, we'd like it to be quicker but generally, if you're speaking with whales, it's a competitive process and decisions like that take time. So yes, we are obviously optimistic that, at some point, we will be signing new licensees. I cannot commit, on a conference call like this, for sure but it something that we focus on, and we've said publicly that we would be happy with one or two per annum.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: Great. Two quick questions and I will be through. The first is related to the DSO. It clear why it's increasing. My question is, do you expect more of your license to take on their e-cash system? If that's the case, where do you see DSO ending up? The other question, what is your cash. You've talked about acquisition in the past.

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Where is that in the pipeline as well? Thanks a lot.

LEWIS ROSE: Okay. On the DSOs, just for everybody's benefit, I assume you are referring to Days of Sales Outstanding, which is the terminology for the Accounts Receivable. We've said that Accounts Receivable has increased because of the fact that two of our licensees have taken on responsibility for their own e-cash, and obviously, with a growing business, you'd expect that to occur. We don't have any plans today for any of our licensees to take on e-cash themselves. Clearly, there is discussion in the industry that an integrated account is the way to go, and we are speaking to existing and prospective licensees about that.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: So does that mean you don't expect right now that your other licensees will take on their own e-cash systems?

LEWIS ROSE: No, at this point not.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: So, the two that you do have are the DSOs. Are those DSOs more like in the 30 days and the ones that you have alone are below 10? Is that accurate?

LEWIS ROSE: Yes.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: Then the final question I had was about the acquisition and acquisition potential and what's going on out there in the market.

LEWIS ROSE: Well, we've said that, from industry data, a year ago there were probably 1,800 Online gaming sites. Today, they are down to about 1,200. So either the smaller sites are disappearing or there's certainly consolidation in the industry. We've said that, if you look at the poker landscape or the poker environment, the top ten rooms represent about 90% of the business, but the top five rooms represent about 80% of the business. We certainly see the consolidation of that occurring over the next three or four years and maybe sooner, so from CryptoLogic's point of view, we are in the fortunate position of having a very strong balance sheet, both to invest in our existing business and to be aware of and be primed for acquisition opportunities, should they arise.

Our business plan does not depend on acquisitions but nonetheless, we are actively looking at a number of opportunities. We would only make an acquisition if the price is right, and then we will act accordingly. We have criteria that we've established for acquisition potentials that include, one, it has to strengthen our core business; and two, it has to either accelerate growth into new technologies, new channels, emerging game areas and/or geographic expansion; three, it has to be complementary to our strategy; and then finally, it has to be synergistic in value and accretive.

BRIAN KINSTLINGER: Okay, thanks, guys.

OPERATOR: David Shore from Desjardins Securities.

DAVID SHORE, ANALYST, DESJARDINS SECURITIES: Just a couple of questions — taxes for the quarter came in a little bit lower than I was expecting. Where do you see that going for the rest of the year?

LEWIS ROSE: It's like we've said; we maintain that the tax rate will be around 15 to 17%.

DAVID SHORE: Sorry, so that was 15 to 17% is what you expect for the rest of the year?

LEWIS ROSE: Right.

DAVID SHORE: That is where your guidance for Q2 is dependent on?

LEWIS ROSE: Right.

DAVID SHORE: Okay. Where does the headcount stand?

LEWIS ROSE: The current headcount, David, is 325.

DAVID SHORE: Okay. How much of that would be in development?

LEWIS ROSE: Oh, the vast bulk, well over 60%. Obviously well over 66%.

DAVID SHORE: Okay. Anything happening with bingo?

LEWIS ROSE: Bingo, as you know, has been a business that we launched in 2003, 2002-2003. In our view, it has shown substantial resilience but it has not shown the growth that we've benefited from in poker. It's important to us in

terms of complementing our casino and poker offering, and it enables us to have a well rounded complete offering for customers. The 2005 bingo revenue is between 1 and 2% of our total revenue, so it's not material in that respect, but it's important for us as a premier Online gaming company to have the product offering available to customers should they wish to take it up.

DAVID SHORE: Okay. Any progress on the CFO search?

LEWIS ROSE: We continue to look for the CFO, as you all know. If there's anybody on the phone who has recommendations, please let us know. We've been working with (indiscernible), who as you know is a highly respected international executive search firm, to identify the best person for the role. It's a very, very important role and it requires some specific credentials and we've been very thorough in our evaluation. We've narrowed the focus down to several candidates and for whatever reason we've not concluded with any individual person.

In the meantime, we continue to achieve excellent financial results, we have a strong cast position, and I can confirm to that we are in very good hands with Jenifer Cua acting as our Interim CFO. She's done a superb job in the interim.

DAVID SHORE: Thanks. What about new game developments, specifically on the mobile side?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, we look at that question in two parts actually, David. In terms of new games, we continue to innovate and develop new games. As we mentioned, we were the first to bring "Fruit Machines" to market and beyond that, we are the first to bring Bejeweled to the Internet. So from our point of view, we've been very, very proactive in terms of new games. We will be delivering a new series of games towards the end of the second quarter and all being well again, one new package of games by the fourth.

As far as the mobile business is concerned, we've said for a long time now that while we are of the view that mobile and interactive TV are very romantic and sound like they have universal application, we are very skeptical. We have developed four games for wireless ourselves, but we're not convinced that the economic model justifies the capital expenditure. We understand Online gaming; we understand the revenue model; we understand the potential. We'd been doing this now for ten years. We've got \$25 billion in transactions that we've processed for 2 million players around the world in 240 countries. We know what we're doing in Online gaming.

As far as wireless is concerned, there are a number of intermediaries who would want their slice of the pie, so our view is, at this point, given the take-up, given the technology challenges, given the user or the player experience, and given the revenue model, we're not convinced that right now is the time for us, based on our philosophy of return on effort, to concentrate on wireless. We still see tremendous growth potential in our two core businesses of Online casino and Online poker, and that's where we will spend our focus over the next while.

DAVID SHORE: Okay, last question — anything new to report as far as Asia goes?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, David, Asia offers tremendous growth potential, and we're looking at payment providers to lead the way because, you know, frankly, it's much easier to look at the geographic size of Asia on the map or the number of people, the number of cellphone users or the number of Internet connections, but frankly, the challenges of both, one, the fragmented legislation and secondly the payment alternatives have dissuaded us from a huge push into Asia. You have to look at each country on an individual basis. While we've seen some encouraging traction in our Japanese-language version, China is much slower to develop, given the absence of international credit cards for players to make deposits. So yes, Asia is a tremendous opportunity; it's one that we believe will happen in the future, but not in the immediate future.

OPERATOR: Traci Mangini from ThinkEquity Partners.

TRACI MANGINI, ANALYST, THINKEQUITY PARTNERS: Good morning. I just had a question regarding the regulatory environment in the U.S. You mentioned that a bill was upcoming. I was just wondering if you could comment on your level of concern regarding the Kyle Bill and particular work-arounds that might be in place, in the event that it would pass. Also, have you stated any goals for U.S. revenue contribution, for example in '06?

LEWIS ROSE: Right, well, the first question is about the current state of play in the U.S. It appears to us, Traci, that Senator Kyle is preparing to launch and introduce a prohibition bill shortly. Unlike the other Kyle bills, this one seeks to ban U.S. financial institutions from processing payments for unlawful Internet wagers. But it doesn't seem to clarify what is or what is not legal. So, as a result, it doesn't contain any carve-outs, including any exemptions for the Online horse racing industry. As you know, the horse racing industry today is a legal Online activity in California, and it's today generating hundreds of millions of dollars for states in which it is currently legal. So, it's reasonable to assume that the

horse racing industry would have a problem with this bill if it were introduced and so they wouldn't be able to get their payments processed for Internet wagers. Now, if that happens, then what you will see is a position of various carve-outs for various industry segments. You know, Online gaming is here to stay; it's not going anywhere. So, the stakes for online gaming, which is now expected to reach \$12 billion this year, is high. So you have a significant number of various industry groups who are allocating tremendous amounts of time and energy to growing their business. So if there were to be legislation with any carve-outs, you can be assured that each of the various specific industry lobby groups will be fighting to ensure their survival.

Senator Kyle has, for almost ten years, been working to introduce prohibition efforts and thus far without success. You know, the last exemption-free prohibition bill was from Republican Jim Leach, and that was in the House of Representatives in 2000. That was ultimately defeated by special interest groups seeking exemptions.

So the second question is, why are we focused on the — the second response to the question is exactly to explain why are we focused on the global industry, because if you look at our licensees' revenue — and that was your second question, is what proportion of our licensees' revenue comes from international sources — we said that we are comfortable at around 60%. In Q1 of 2005, CryptoLogic's licensees achieved 65% of their revenue from overseas markets. This is as a result of a conscious effort we made a couple of years ago, because that 65% level is up from 40% in 2002, 55% in 2003, and then 60% in 2004.

TRACI MANGINI: Thank you. Can you also comment — you know what, there's a couple of high-profile Internet poker IPOs expected to be coming shortly and likely to command some pretty attractive multiples or valuations, at least that's what is speculated. Are you finding, in your acquisition search, that the multiples are looking a bit high at the moment?

LEWIS ROSE: Traci, from our point of view, that's fantastic, because what it does do, it shines the light on the industry, doesn't it? It makes London the center of the universe for Online gaming. We said it is going to be; we said it has been and we said it will continue to be. You know, financing Online gaming is going to be an exciting opportunity. There are public companies in the UK that are in this business but there are some reports that some of the poker companies you're referring to, large-scale poker companies, have plans to go public. From our point of view, that's a positive thing.

In terms of acquisition opportunities, we've said several times that acquisitions are an avenue for growth for us. Model does not depend on acquisitions for growth. We will be prudent and not overpay for acquisitions. On the other hand, the attention and the valuations that this new initiative has brought to the industry is good for CryptoLogic. Now remember that public companies develop reputations. We've earned our reputation over the last six years as one of the very first and few publicly traded companies in this industry. Today, we trade on three of the world's senior and largest exchanges, in Toronto as you know and on NASDAQ in the U.S., and on the main board of the London Stock Exchange. So from our point of view, we'd demonstrated a record of public transparency and compliance that is unparalleled in the industry in terms of corporate governance and disclosure. In our view, that will separate us from the newbies.

OPERATOR: Greg Harris from Canaccord Capital.

GREG HARRIS, ANALYST, CANACCORD CAPITAL: Thanks, guys. I'm just wondering if we could talk a little bit about something not the casino, not poker but how things are looking on the advertising subsidiary and e-cash, and what you're seeing coming in by way of revenue on those streams, how it differs from previous and what you're looking at going forward.

LEWIS ROSE: Greg, I think you're probably referring to the information portal.

GREG HARRIS: Exactly.

LEWIS ROSE: For Winner Online, which provides gaming and gambling information, helpful tips and advice, it continues to grow; it's not a substantial part of our business, but again, it completes the offering.

In terms of the other revenue, we expect single-digit growth. It's a solid contributor and we expect that that performance and growth will continue.

GREG HARRIS: Okay, thanks, guys. Perhaps if you could just — if I could get a viewpoint from you actually on where development is being focused now. We've obviously seen some big work out of you guys last year on the upgrading of slots, recently seen some work out of poker enhancements. What is development really going to be focused on now? Where do you see the holes or areas of significant enhancement?



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LEWIS ROSE: Well, you are right; we identified the fact that we were underrepresented in slots last year and so, with a concerted effort, we launched 30 new games, a majority of which were slots last year. The food machines are an example of an innovative way to acquire new customers. As you know, acquisition costs and avenues for new player acquisition are becoming much more competitive and increasing, and so we've focused on player retention and lapsed player reactivation, which is meant that our development resources are not just on the front end, not just new games, although that's important and you've witnessed that with the recent Bejeweled announcement, but we are also focusing on the back end in terms of improved data mining, providing tools for our customers to better mine their databases and to improve their revenue per player.

GREG HARRIS: Is that something that you anticipate being able to roll out a more robust back-end product in this year's release?

LEWIS ROSE: It's an ongoing development, Greg. We're doing it all the time.

OPERATOR: Carl Franklin from Bridgewell Securities.

CARL FRANKLIN, ANALYST, BRIDGEWELL SECURITIES LIMITED: Can you tell me whether you think that skilled gaming is a field that you should be looking at in the future?

LEWIS ROSE: Carl, we look at skilled games in considerable depth. It's a different business from Online gaming in that the player himself is more the gamer than a gambler and it's more attuned to a subscription-based economical revenue model. So whereas, for example, to give you some perspective, the average cost per acquisition for an Online gambler might be between 150 and \$400, but the lifetime value might be between 1000 to \$1200, for skill-based gaming, it's probably 1/10 of that, so it's easier and cheaper to acquire a skill-based gamer but the lifetime value is also much lower. So in terms of our economic model, we've continued to focus on Online gaming, in terms of casino and poker, because of the economic model. Having said that, some of our customers are using a skill-based games as a constructive way to acquire new players with the intention of converting some of those skill-based gamers into Online gamers.

CARL FRANKLIN: Thanks for this. Also, can you outline plans for sponsoring tournaments this year? I mean, do you feel that the one you sponsored last year proved to be a big success?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, that's right. There are two main areas of sponsorship. The one is the World Series of Poker. Let me just describe to you that the WagerLogic poker room manager has just put out a room-wide World Series of Poker main event package. He said it was "top of the league", and in our view, he is right. The WSOP package consists of \$2000 in cash, a \$10,000 seat to the World Series of Poker main event, and that's paid from the prize pool. Then there's a nine nights' stays at one of the hotels in Vegas, where the event is held, so the stay is valued at more than \$2,100. So it's a significant package for players. There are 145 seats available that the licensees or that the WagerLogic poker room is offering; that's one event package.

The second is the Caribbean Poker Classic, which as you know last year was the inaugural year held last year in St. Maarten. There were 157 entrants; there were three World Series of Poker champions that attended. This year, we expect the CPC to be an even greater success. We are currently finalizing negotiations and the location will be fantastic for poker players to enjoy.

One of the other items that is worth mentioning, in terms of poker, is the recent introduction of a new series of low-limit, no-limit and (indiscernible) tables that we've introduced to the room at the request of our customers. These tables were created to meet the needs of the smaller-limit player as well as the no-limit and part-limit players down to the \$0.15, \$0.25 level. The reason I tell you this is because now CryptoLogic software — and I was asked the question earlier about develop of software and plans in poker and casino — but now CryptoLogic software meets the heart of the online players at all levels, including play-for-fun.

OPERATOR: Harry Barker (ph) from Monies Marts (ph).

HARRY BARKER, ANALYST, MONIES MARTS (PH): Thank you. One of the questions — topics you addressed was the whole area of acquisition. Do you foresee, in terms of acquisition, looking at a company that's going to round out your product offering, or would you be interested in looking at a company that might help in terms of payment processing, such as a net teller?

LEWIS ROSE: We've established criteria for acquisitions that would mean either growth in our existing core business or the opportunity to get into new technologies that we've perhaps missed. For example, if we were not in the poker

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business, we would've made an acquisition of poker. So, new technologies, core business expansion, new channels, or emerging game areas or geographic expansion, those are the buckets of opportunities we see.

As far as payment processes are concerned, we've seen tremendous growth in some of the more successful payment processors that have gone public. The issue with payment processors, in our view, is that if we were to acquire a payment processor, the concern is always that our competitors, who are also existing customers of the payment processor, would leave because they would be concerned about conflict of interest. So you might end up buying a fantastic cash generative payment-processing business only to find that the customers that you acquired move on.

HARRY BARKER: Follow-up to that, in view of the WTO decision, do you foresee companies such as — the major companies such as MasterCard and Visa getting back into the payment process eventually?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, obviously, my hope is the answer is that all of the credit cards embrace Online gaming. The reality is that's not the case today. There are many, many, many credit card and credit-issuing institutions in the U.S. that process Online gaming transactions as long as they are properly coded. As a public company, we obviously abide by all of the regulations that are imposed by credit card and other payment-processing institutions. That would be pure speculation on my part as to the inner workings of the major credit card companies and their approach to the outcomes of WTO.

What I can do is say to you that if you look at a major jurisdiction like the UK, the UK has clearly embraced Online gaming by implementing and instituting regulation through the UK government for the first time, so that's clearly good news.

OPERATOR: Gabriel Leung from Paradigm Capital.

GABRIEL LEUNG, ANALYST, PARADIGM CAPITAL: Congratulations on the results. A couple of quick questions here — first, just looking at your pipeline of opportunities for new licensees, can you comment on whether or not some of these licensees are you looking at — do they have an incumbent software provider already or are they not in the Online gambling opportunity at all, which would obviously change the selling cycle?

LEWIS ROSE: The short answer is both. The reality is that there are some what we call whales who are not particularly happy with the incumbent, and there are others that are considering entering the online gaming business for the first time. It's very difficult not to notice the substantial growth of this business and for some of the brand-name companies around the world to want to enter. Those are the companies that are going to take longer to actually make the corporate decision to enter the business. But the short answer is we're looking at both, the potential new entrants and potential existing, Online gaming offerings that would consider the CryptoLogic WagerLogic product offering.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Just looking at your product roadmap, it looks like some of your competitors are gaining some good traction on the flash-based casino offerings, even within your existing licensee base. What are your views on that? Do you see an opportunity to maybe develop your existing flash software portfolio to take advantage of the opportunity there?

LEWIS ROSE: Gabriel, we do, as a company, offer, as you know, download and non-download versions of our software. The non-download versions include both Java and Flash. While those offerings aren't as extensive as the download version, which includes over 100 table and slot games, we believe our focus is still on the philosophy of ROE, Return On Effort. The download versions are much stickier; the revenue per player is much higher; the loyalty of a download player is much greater. So we've focused on new product development in those areas. It's a much richer experience and a much broader appeal to Online gamers. Having said that, we've not neglected Flash and Java. Flash obviously has its attractions, and so we do offer a product portfolio of Flash but it's not as extensive as download.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Does any of your — the investment program include enhancing the Flash portfolio of products?

LEWIS ROSE: Yes.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Just to clarify on something else in the press release, you talked about CapEx for the current year running up to potentially \$12 million, 35% of that being just normal CapEx. Of the remaining 8, can you comment on how much of that is related to your move over to your new building and how much of it is related to the investment program?

LEWIS ROSE: Yes. A big proportion of the increased capital expenditure this year is the move to the new building. It's to accommodate the increased employee strength. As you know, we've grown tremendously as a company; we've grown from revenues in 2003 — sorry, revenues in 2002 of 34 million; 2003, 44 million; 2004, 64 million. So we've effectively

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doubled the business over the last two years or so. Obviously, with the doubling of the business comes the increase in employee strength, and we've grown in terms of employees from 290 at the end of 2004 to over 325 today worldwide, the majority of whom are in Toronto and as we said earlier, over 60% of whom are in the development area. So a significant proportion of the CapEx will be for the new premises.

GABRIEL LEUNG: What is your assumption for headcount by the end of '05?

LEWIS ROSE: It will be in the order of 385.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Okay.

LEWIS ROSE: That's the expectation at this point.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Okay, fair enough. I missed this during the call but what is your fully diluted assumption?

JENIFER CUA: 14.5 million.

LEWIS ROSE: 14.5 million shares.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Excellent. Do you have an expectation for the full year?

LEWIS ROSE: In terms of fully diluted number of shares?

GABRIEL LEUNG: That's correct.

LEWIS ROSE: That's the expectation at the moment.

GABRIEL LEUNG: Okay. Just lastly, you talked about settling the WebSports lawsuit. Are there any other outstanding lawsuits that we should know about?

LEWIS ROSE: There are no material lawsuits that we are aware of.

OPERATOR: Robert Winslow from Wellington West.

ROBERT WINSLOW, ANALYST, WELLINGTON WEST: Good morning. You indicated to your 6% year-over-year growth in your casino revenues. I wonder if you can tell us, is that on a lower number of licensees?

LEWIS ROSE: I'm sorry. Can you repeat that question, please?

ROBERT WINSLOW: Sure. Your casino revenues grew 6% year-over-year. Could to tell us please the number of licensees that was on versus the year-ago period?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, we had 11 licensees at the beginning of the quarter; we had 9 licensees at the end of the quarter. In 2003-2004, we began with 21 licensees.

ROBERT WINSLOW: Now, earlier in the call, you talked about the competitive process for whales in signing new licensees. I wonder if you could tell us please who are the top one or two other firms you consistently come up against in these competitive bids?

LEWIS ROSE: Well, one of the distinguishing features of CryptoLogic is that we are a publicly traded company. We have a strong balance sheet; we have a track record of proven performance; we have over 100 table games, slot games, etc. So, we are must often compared to publicly traded companies like Boss Media. Having said that, there are other private companies that we do compete against, including Micro Gaming, Playtech and others, so it's a range of competitors. Obviously, our competitive advantage, though, is the fact that we have such an enviable roster of blue-chip customers; they are international brand-named gaming organizations. We have an offering that includes casino, poker and bingo, both download and non-downloadable in seven different languages, three different currencies. We have an integrated e-cash solution, our own proprietary solution, and we have a multilingual 24/7 customer support center. We have a strong balance sheet; we have \$90 million in cash; we have no debt. We are regulated in two strictly regulated jurisdictions, publicly traded on three exchanges, which ensure the transparency and the credibility that we've spoken about so many times. Then the bottom-line, though is that we are only focused on top-tier customers; we are only focused on the high-quality, blue-chip customers.

ROBERT WINSLOW: : Okay, thanks. I'd like to just focus here a little bit on your licensing agreements briefly for casino and poker. Could you tell me please what a typical duration would be on a casino license agreement?

LEWIS ROSE: Sure. The typical duration is three to five years. That's been the norm in the past. It appears more recently that the term has been focused more on a three-year term. They generally are exclusive; they generally are for casino and/or poker, depending on the individual licensee; and they contain provisions for incentives as the customer increases their volume. It also accounts for — takes into account the three core offerings that we have, which is the gaming software, the e-cash solution and the customer service.

ROBERT WINSLOW: Okay, so it sounds like the poker licensee duration is similar to that three to five-year range? Is that fair, or would it be—? The reason I ask — I've heard more like one to three years is typical right now, given the very high growth rate in the sector.

LEWIS ROSE: Right. What I said was that the norm in the past has been three to five, but more recently, it has been three. Clearly, some contracts can be in the one to three-year range, but our focus and our expectation is that we aim for a three-year type relationship.

ROBERT WINSLOW: Okay, great. That takes me to my last question. Do you have any renewals on these licensees coming up over the next, say, two to three quarters? Thank you.

LEWIS ROSE: We don't have any more renewals in 2005. The next set of renewals are in 2006.

OPERATOR: Bob McWhirter from Selective Asset.

BOB MCWHIRTER, ANALYST, SELECTIVE ASSET MANAGEMENT: Just on that note, on the ones that are coming up in 2006, can you give a range as to whether they are in the first quarter, or first half of the year, last half of the year, when you expect them to be up for renewal?

LEWIS ROSE: Right. There are two, and one is in the end of the first quarter and the other is in the fourth quarter.

BOB MCWHIRTER: Thank you. You talked about the kind of integrated e-cash solution that you have, yet you've had two clients who have basically taken on responsibility themselves. Tell about the — or talk about the profitability impact if a customer does go in-house with their own e-cash solution.

LEWIS ROSE: All Right. Let me explain to you first why customers do that, because that's important, Bob. We are not involved in sports betting, so many of our customers have chosen to offer a wide range of gaming options to their players, which would include sports betting. So, in order for them to attract a player who has the flexibility of gambling Online in casino, poker, bingo, for example, or alternatively, in sports book, they would like to have one account, so when you register, you have one account. The actual cost is not — the margin is not materially different because what happens is there is obviously a cost associated with processing that transaction, whether it's a credit card transaction or a payment processor. So indeed, if the customer takes on that responsibility him or herself, then they are also taking on the obligation to make that financial charge payment to the payment processor or the credit card company.

BOB MCWHIRTER: The description of we're not involved in sports betting, meaning this is an area where you've decided as a corporate strategy we don't want to become involved, or is it something you're considering for the future?

LEWIS ROSE: No, that's correct. At this point in time, we have no plans to get involved in sports betting; we have no sports betting involvement at CryptoLogic at all.

BOB MCWHIRTER: Okay. You've talked about the kind of 6,000 simultaneous players that you've got online at one time and one of the targets that you have for things to do in the future is to increase your network scalability. Can you talk about, currently, whether the network is a bottleneck, whether the bottleneck is software-related, what kind of CapEx and/or time would be required to fix the network scalability challenge?

LEWIS ROSE: Sure. Currently, we've achieved simultaneous player numbers in excess of 6,000. Our capacity today would be in excess of 10,000. The recent release of the new series of no-limit, low-limit and part-limit tables will attract, in our view, a significant number of new players because we are offering limits down to \$0.15, \$0.25 limit, so that means that we will probably see an influx of new players at the lower-limit levels, which should increase the numbers again.

In terms of CapEx, we've said that the major program includes one of the initiatives to ensure that we have the stability and scalability to accommodate increase in numbers of players, which is why we are very happy with the growth we've achieved thus far in poker and casino. We are not satisfied that that's where it's going to stop. We do believe that there's still substantial growth that is still available in the Online poker industry, and we want to ensure that we participate in that growth. In order to participate in that growth, we need to have the systems to accommodate growth, and therefore,

we have been investing and planning and developing our systems to accommodate that growth. That is included in the expectations and the numbers that we've given you today of the major investment programs.

BOB MCWHIRTER: The timeline required? Meaning do you expect that perhaps by the end of June, or is it something that's closer to the end of the calendar year, where you might be able to do 25,000 people at a pop?

LEWIS ROSE: Right, and that's expected by the end of the year.

OPERATOR: Milan Radia from Bridgewell Securities.

MILAN RADIA, ANALYST, BRIDGEWELL SECURITIES LIMITED: Just a quick question on the relative concentrations of contribution — if you look at casino and then at poker, I mean what is the contribution of maybe the top two or three licensees in each as a percentage of the total of the growth, for example?

LEWIS ROSE: Right. Milan, what we've said is that we've focused on nine core licensees. The top seven represent well over 90%; in fact, it's over 95% now. That's consistent with our focus on quality as opposed to quantity of customers and the higher return on effort. So we don't provide individual revenue by customer for obvious and confidential reasons that maintain the professional nature of our relationship with our customers. But I think that should give you a very good indication.

MILAN RADIA: Sure. Is it relatively similar in poker as it is to casino or it is perhaps some — in the early stages of poker relative to casino, is there more concentration?

LEWIS ROSE: No, it's not similar. The reason is not all of the customers take both poker and casino. Some are poker-only customers, and some take poker and casino.

MILAN RADIA: I guess the final question is, just we've seen some of your larger licensees trying to bring in a second supplier, I guess to diversify their own supplier risk, an example being William Hill. What has the experience been from your perspective in terms of the evolution of marketshares and relative performance there?

LEWIS ROSE: Right, William Hill actually did introduce a second supplier. For William Hill Online gaming has grown dramatically, and so they wanted to ensure dual supply and to mitigate any risks, so in May of last year, they introduced a second supplier for casino. I am thrilled, delighted and actually very, very proud of the CryptoLogic and WagerLogic teams to be able to say to you that William Hill has actually decided to reverse that decision, in terms of their primary casino for both UK sterling and U.S. dollars, and they've decided to go with one supplier for UK sterling and U.S. dollars. That's CryptoLogic.

So my response to the question is, as a customer, every customer has the right to ensure that they protect their business, and so from William Hill's point of view, they decided to offer two casinos on their Web site. They've now decided that, based on the quality and breadth of our games, the size of our jackpots and the player experience, that our software is superior and have therefore decided to proceed on the basis of a single casino offering on their Web site.

MILAN RADIA: Very good. Thanks very much.

OPERATOR: This concludes our question-and-answer period. I would now like to turn the call by cover to Mr. Rose. Please go ahead.

LEWIS ROSE: Thank you. I would like to thank you all for taking the time to join us on the call today. CryptoLogic's strong first-quarter results show that our disciplined execution and investment in our future are working in this dynamic and ever-changing industry. We will continue to grow our market strengths by creating innovative products that drive profitability for our customers and provide shareholders with the blue-chip results that they expect from CryptoLogic.

Tomorrow, as you all know, is our annual shareholders meeting. It will take place at 430 PM Eastern time at the Design exchange In Toronto. I certainly hope to see you all there. If you are not there, the only reason that I will accept for your inability to attend is if you are playing Online poker. If not, I look forward to sharing our continued progress with you on our next quarterly call. Thank you all.

OPERATOR: This concludes today's conference call. Please disconnect your lines, and have a nice day.

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FD (Fair Disclosure) Wire May 11, 2005 Wednesday

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**LOAD-DATE:** May 26, 2005

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Geelong Advertiser

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** SPORT; Pg. 48

**LENGTH:** 350 words

**HEADLINE:** Carroll sharper after US trip

**BODY:**

TROY Carroll has returned from a two-week visit to the United States with renewed confidence after an extensive training program.

Carroll trained on a Yamaha of Troy YZ 250F while staying in Southern California with good friend and fellow Australian Jay Marmont.

In a bid to increase his race speed and consistency Carroll trained on a variety of different motocross tracks throughout California and rode for more than four hours a day.

The 25-year-old Queenslander, who rides for the Geelong-based Craig Dack team, said one of the highlights of the training tour was catching up with Yamaha Supercross star, Australian Chad Reed, at the final round of the AMA Supercross Championship in Las Vegas.

"We went to Vegas for the final round the AMA Supercross Championship and it was an absolutely awesome experience," Carroll said.

"It was great to watch two Aussies in action in such an amazing line-up of riders, and in front of a capacity crowd.

"I got to spend some time with Yamaha rider Chad Reed at the event, which incidentally he won.

"After Vegas we were back to California and straight back to training where I learnt some new training techniques.

"The aim of the trip was to get faster and go a whole lot better than I have been and I think these new techniques have really helped me prepare for Newcastle next weekend."

Teammate Darryll King, reigning pro open champion, also headed off shore between rounds, on a three week trip home to Hamilton in New Zealand.

King is aiming for his third straight win after clinching round wins ahead of rival Daryl Hurley at both the Toowoomba and Coolum rounds of the Maxxis Australian Motocross Championship.

The 36-year-old veteran is only seven points behind Hurley in the championship and feels he has really closed the gap to the Suzuki rider since the Coolum round.

"Now my foot is nearly back to normal I have been able to do some really intensive training on the bike in the past couple of weeks," King said.

"I really closed the gap on Hurley at the last round at Coolum now I have to pull out and go faster than him."

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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The Journal News (Westchester County, New York)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. 2C

**LENGTH:** 500 words

**HEADLINE:** RECREATION

**BYLINE:** Jane McManus

**BODY:**

Adventure racers will get a new challenge

SBR Multi Sports Half-Iron triathlon to debut May 21

Jane McManus

The Journal News

The local love affair with endurance sports has spawned an industry to train and cater to athletes – and provide them with outlets to test themselves.

The inaugural SBR Multi Sports Half-Iron Tri, which will be held in Harriman State Park on May 21, is just the latest venture from Genesis Adventures, a company Connecticut-based Brian Duncanson started four years ago to cater to adventure racers.

"We've grown 100 percent each year," said Duncanson, a former software developer. "We needed to diversify because we saturated the market for adventure racing."

Genesis also will be coordinating the Westchester Marathon & Half-Marathon in White Plains this October. Last weekend the company held its first of eight adventure races planned for this season, and that also was held at Harriman State Park.

"Something has happened over the last year, even nationally," said Josh Gold, owner of PushHard Multisport, Inc., in Peekskill. "There's even a half-iron in Vegas now. The popularity of the sport has to be increasing."

The Harriman race will involve a 1.2-mile swim, a 57-mile bike ride and a half-marathon of 13.1 miles. Harriman is large, and the scope of the race and other factors mean this will be a challenging course, with the last 3 miles an uphill climb.

"It wasn't our initial intention to make the hardest course possible," Duncanson said. "We wanted to have an event close to New York City."

Because of a good working relationship with Harriman officials, Duncanson opted to hold the race there. The original course would have been tough enough, but rain washed out a beach on Lake Sebago, meaning the swim – and the start of the race – had to be moved to Lake Welch, the highest point in the hilly park.

For the triathlon, athletes will need a wet suit for the chilly waters, with bikes waiting when they are finished. The ride will take place on a central loop of park road spiked with peaks and valleys for 1,500 feet of elevation each loop. The half-marathon includes 3 miles of soft interior park trail complete with stream crossings.

"It's just a beautiful park, and the fact that it's 30 miles north of New York City is amazing," Duncanson said. "It's wilderness. You feel like you're in the Adirondacks."

The Journal News (Westerchester County, New York) May 11, 2005 Wednesday

Already, 240 athletes have signed up to compete in the triathlon from as far away as California, although most are from the tri-state area. Genesis holds events in the Northeast corridor, from New Jersey to Massachusetts. This is a for-profit venture, and pre-registration alone is \$200 for many races, not to mention the equipment it takes to complete a triathlon or adventure race.

"It's great that it's so local," said Gold, who has several clients signed up. "There are so many triathletes in the area that it's nice to stay home for a race and not have to travel."

Reach Jane McManus at [jmcmanus@thejournalnews.com](mailto:jmcmanus@thejournalnews.com).

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

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May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**LENGTH:** 1057 words

**HEADLINE:** What NAB 2005 did to broadcasting in Vegas

**BODY:**

Posted to the Web: Wednesday, May 11, 2005

NAB 2005 ended over a fortnight ago but its memory will continue to linger and its impact on the future of television very profound, just as previous editions dictated the growth of the industry globally.

This year more technologies were pumped into the scene to give an indication that hence forth anything could happen just as it was truly evidenced that the little line between broadcasting and telecommunication has been obliterated for ever. And with that, cost of services will climb down. A taste is served at the moment in the US where Comcast, Verizon and other well known telecom companies are on each other's throat dishing out services that cost little above \$25. Most telecom companies are running after the mega bucks that come from entertainment and they are relying on broadband cables and other digital possibilities to tap into the system.

Such possibilities prompted Verizon boss, Ivan Seidenberg to beg for the understanding of content providers in the franchising of content since the new world of broadcasting cannot work without good content. His company since year 2000 has put in more than \$73billion capital to create a common platform for telecommunications and broadcasting, and with the plan to hit at least three million homes this year, Seidenberg expressed the joy that a new vista of business has opened before broadcasters and telecom operators, and invited service providers to partake in the business.

But the journey to these possibilities began years ago and giving a keynote address on April 18, Seidenberg pointed to those days of small beginnings and what ardent followers of the voice of technology stand to benefit.

Recalled Seidenberg: 'For more than a decade, we've been talking about 'convergence': the idea that what used to separate domains "" phone calls, photos, music, movies, games, video "" would be united in a continuous stream of bits and bytes. In fact, as far back as 1994, my predecessor "" Ray Smith of Bell Atlantic "" stood on this very stage and told you that, before this transformation was through, your computer would speak, your TV station would listen, and your telephone would show you pictures.'

Those predictions have come to pass and they have come with new businesses and that created excitement in Vegas.

At NAB 2005, there were more products than the human mind could ever comprehend at one event. There were IP streams and other technologies that clearly make it possible for broadcasting to be done from one's living room. If you are in the media, Vegas is a place to learn, to learn how to make programming for the new media and to know what equipment to use.

There were new products such as the one that won at the third edition of the Innovation in Media Awards, AIM. With votes from the attendees, the winners include Apple Final Cut Pro5; Avid Media Composer Adrenaline HD 2.1; Avid Symphony Nitris; JVC GY-HD 100U3-CD ProHD Camcorder; and Sony HDCAM SR/HDCAM. This was in the category of Content Creation. In Content Management, it was Apple QuickTime Broadcaster; Global Microwave Systems High Definition Messenger Transmitter, HDMT; NewTek TriCaster; Omneon Spectrum Media Server; and Smart AV Smart Console. While in Content Delivery, it was Avid DNxchange; Leitch X75 HD Multipath Converter and Synchronizer; Leitch NEX10 HD; Sony Anycast Station; and Sundance NewsLink.

While most of these organisations held visitors spellbound with their special effects demonstrations on giant screens, others like Digital Juice, Christie, Autocue and Tandberg TV clearly held sway in what should be the future of broadcasting in the area of big screen, software and IP stream.

There were satellite offerings and looking at the market transponder cost will continue to climb now. And this is good news for broadcasters and communications companies.

Another major development was the call of NAB on the Federation Communications Commission, FCC, to reject the Consumer Electronics Association's effort to delay implementation of FCC rules designed to encourage rollout of Digital Television. While the FCC has a requirement that at least 50 per cent of TV sets shipped by July 1, 2005 have Digital TV, DTV, tuners, the CEA members are urging the FCC to move the date by at least one year while they continue to ship out loads of analogue TV sets.

There was also the breath-taking high definition TV station fully equipped with master control, three-camera news set, several 720p editing suites, a mobile production truck, and even an HD ingest station receiving from a helicopter flying high above the convention centre.

The station which was set up with equipment contributions from 52 manufacturers and the help of 26 students and industry volunteers was intended to demonstrate how viable HD operations can be. The station cost about \$2.5 dollars excluding labour.

The station had an attractive schedule round the clock and it gave feeds to local stations around Vegas. What was clearly on display at the station was the future of television and the technology, aesthetics and presentations were simply amazing.

Someone had asked me: what does a country like Nigeria stand to benefit? Great question this is. Methinks what should interest us is how to find ways to leapfrog our technology and move at one with the modern world.

The world is talking of digital television while others are already doing high definition. But in whatever name this is called, what is being talked about is global product on global technology, having a global standard as the result. Nigeria should seize the niche with one of the most robust deregulated broadcast industries in Africa to create contents that are digitally acceptable and belt them out with equipment that can reach the globe.

If we can enter at the Digital and High Definition level, while should we continue to use home video cameras and make the country laughable in the eyes of the world?

One other thing: with our broadcast market and a booming video sector, Nigeria can attract the world. It is high time the National Broadcasting Commission, NBC, started to invite most of these equipment manufacturers to the country to give our broadcasters a talk.

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LOAD-DATE: May 12, 2005

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Los Angeles Times

May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
Home Edition

SECTION: CALIFORNIA; Metro; Editorial Pages Desk; Part B; Pg. 15

LENGTH: 775 words

HEADLINE: Commentary;  
ANDRES MARTINEZ;  
Made in Wynn's Image

BYLINE: ANDRES MARTINEZ

**BODY:**

And on the seventh day, I showed up to pay my respects. I elbowed my way toward one of Steve Wynn's gleaming new craps tables. Ah, I love the smell of fresh green felt in the evening. Someone rolled a seven within moments, and the rest of the night went pretty much like that. I didn't take it personally — Wynn is understandably in a hurry to recoup his eye-popping \$2.7-billion investment. Still, I drew the line at the gift shop.

Sorry, Sebastian. I was in no mood to plop down \$38 for a cap or \$42 for an infant's T-shirt. Instead, I got him a \$10 pirate's T-shirt across the Strip at Treasure Island, a casino Wynn built a decade ago — which, in Vegas time, might as well have been the 1850s.

No other major American city owes so much of its prosperity — and there is a great deal of intoxicatingly new, chaos-inducing prosperity in Las Vegas — to one person as this place owes to Steve Wynn. The city turns 100 this week, but the modern-day phenomenon of Las Vegas dates back to 1989, the year Wynn, backed by Michael Milken's junk bonds, opened the Mirage.

"Wynn saw a city no one else saw here, and made it happen," says Alan Feldman, an L.A. native and former ad executive who moved to Las Vegas after the Mirage's opening to handle Wynn's public relations. He is now a competitor to Wynn, having stayed on at MGM Mirage after Kirk Kerkorian's hostile takeover of Wynn's old company.

Wynn believed that this desert oasis could be about a lot more than gambling. That the casino action merely helped set the escapist tone, which even non-gamblers would embrace. The big casino resorts in Las Vegas now make more money from their non-gambling operations, which can be hard to believe when you are rolling sevens in the casino or watching the crowds of Chinese gamblers earnestly trying to narrow our trade deficit with their country at Wynn's \$1,000-minimum baccarat tables.

Truth be told, Wynn's new resort underwhelmed me at first. It's oddly restrained, lacking the showy centerpiece that screams, "Look, Ma, I spent \$2.7 billion." A lot of thought went into breaking the 2,700-room resort into discrete, manageable spaces where you might be lulled into thinking you are at a tasteful hotel someplace other than Vegas. It's hard at first to see where all the money went, until you find yourself admiring the restaurants' decor or textiles adorning walls down some hallway, either on the way to the spa or to the hotel's sumptuous conference rooms, where J.P. Morgan Chase was hosting an event during my visit.

As much as the baccarat rooms, these corporate meeting spaces are at the heart of what the new Las Vegas is all about. In a book I wrote in 1998 I described Las Vegas, America's fastest-growing major city for some time, as the nation's equivalent of a permanent World's Fair, its gigantic hotel and convention spaces the equivalent of the old exposition palaces. The city's evolution into the nation's favored meeting place has only accelerated, even as Vegas has also solidified its status as the ultimate mecca for revelers of all ages. The conscious embrace of yesteryear's naughtiness —

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sexual innuendo is the town's preferred marketing pitch — woos both Gen Y weekenders in search of a good time and conventioners eager to loosen up during the week.

With about 6,000 people moving into town each month, the population of Las Vegas is closing in on 2 million. According to census estimates, Clark County grew an astonishing 20% in the first four years of this decade.

The one thing I — Vegas anthropologist that I am — never saw coming was the city's current condo craze. Exploding real estate values are altering the pattern of the city's growth. Wynn bought the land on which the Bellagio now sits for \$500,000 an acre, but it's now worth about \$25 million an acre. So Vegas is going vertical, with dozens of high-rise condos in the works. Many of the same Florida developers who sell condos from Miami Beach to Boca Raton are getting into the game, treating the Las Vegas Strip as if it were a beach. People eager to buy into the Las Vegas brand are paying more than \$1 million for a two-bedroom apartment.

More so than Wynn's new hotel, MGM Mirage Inc.'s 66-acre Project CityCenter, a tightly knit mix of residential towers, shopping venues and hotels slated to open on the Strip in 2009, will revolutionize how we think of Las Vegas. The company announced earlier this year that it had signed Cesar Pelli, the world-renowned architect, to design the complex's centerpiece hotel. There will be no kitschy theme, of course, as this town's ambitions have become improbably contrarian.

Las Vegas now wants to become a real city.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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The Miami Herald

May 11, 2005 Wednesday F1 EDITION

**SECTION:** A; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 1357 words

**HEADLINE:** EVEN WITH THE SIN AND SKIN, VEGAS IS A MODEL FOR AMERICA;  
As Las Vegas turns 100 years old, its growth and service economy represents the future for cities in the United States.  
There's more to the city than gambling the night away;  
UP FRONT / LAS VEGAS AT 100

**BYLINE:** BY TERRY JACKSON; tjackson@herald.com

**DATELINE:** LAS VEGAS

**BODY:**

This black sheep of American cities — brainchild of gangsters, Mecca to Elvis impersonators and 3 a.m. brides, and unabashed promoter of sex, gambling and the \$3.99 buffet — is finally historic, if not mature.

Sunday, Vegas turns 100 years old.

While it's a city that still revels in nearly every tawdry chapter in its relatively slim history book, Las Vegas is moving into its second century boasting it has evolved into something entirely new:

A prototype for American cities in the 21st century.

"As manufacturing jobs move out of America to production overseas, and we continue into a post-industrial society, we are becoming a nation built on providing services," says Hal Rothman, professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and author of Neon Metropolis, which chronicles the growth and future of Las Vegas.

"We're a society in search of new experiences. Las Vegas saw that coming and bet billions of dollars to create a city that's better equipped than any other to meet that demand. It's the economic model for other American cities."

Says Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, a criminal defense attorney who once represented notorious drug dealers and gangsters: "Nobody will be able to touch Las Vegas."

**ROLE MODEL**

For someone who has never been to Las Vegas, or whose last visit to the city was as recent as 10 years ago, it may be hard to understand how a town derisively known to some as "Lost Wages" could be any city's role model.

But the Las Vegas you may think you know is not the Las Vegas of the 21st century.

True, gambling is the No. 1 revenue producer — the casinos took in more than \$10 billion in 2004. And the famous Strip — the north-south boulevard that's home to nearly all the major casino-hotels — glitters with enough neon to light the sky for miles in all directions.

But it's a fast-growing, ever-evolving city that has shed its Elvis-in-leather facade to become a cutting-edge entertainment destination and second-home magnet.

It has the greatest concentration of gourmet restaurants of any city in the world, hip nightclubs with names like Rain, Light, Body English and Pure, where the young and beautiful go to play, as well as upscale shopping at boutiques with gilt-edged names like Harry Winston and Pucci.

The Miami Herald May 11, 2005 Wednesday F1 EDITION

"It used to be that if you came here for three days you'd spend eight hours a day or more gambling," says Alan Feldman, a vice president of the resort conglomerate MGM Mirage. "Now, if you spend four hours total at the tables and spend the rest of the time shopping and eating, that wouldn't be unusual."

As overall revenues have risen, gambling accounts for less of the total.

At MGM Mirage — which owns seven of the largest Strip hotel-casinos — about 44 percent of its annual revenue comes from gambling, down from 65 percent a decade ago. A recent citywide study found that the average visitor spent more on food, drink, lodging and entertainment combined than they allotted for gambling — about \$565 compared with \$500.

But that doesn't mean Las Vegas has become less notorious.

After flirting for several years with the ad pitch that Vegas was a place where Mom, Dad, the kiddies and Grandma and Grandpa could all come and have fun, it has reembraced its aura of naughty adventure: "What Happens Here, Stays Here."

It's a city where you can view paintings by the Old Masters by day and that night attend an outrageous musical show called Bite—think vampires and topless women with fangs.

"Las Vegas is an island," Feldman says. "People can come here and let their hair down without criticism. Of course we're going to be sexy. What's wrong with that?"

But Vegas as a template for other American cities?

With some form of gambling available in all but two states — Hawaii and Utah — and casinos of one level or another operating or about to sprout in 36 states, it's not hard to argue that America has eagerly embraced the Las Vegas lifestyle.

The racetrack casinos planned in Broward County are envisioned not just as halls filled with slot machines, but entertainment centers that mirror the model set forth in the Nevada desert.

How did America, a country that's still considered a little prudish by European standards, come around to the Vegas point of view?

"It used to be that America's middle class frowned on Las Vegas," Rothman says. "It represented sin — gambling, nudity, sex. A Vegas vacation was considered too risqué for many people."

Then came a confluence of events: As Vegas booted out the mobsters that built the first huge casinos and corporations moved in to build ever-larger palaces of pleasure, Americans' attitudes also began to loosen up.

Gambling became just another form of recreation, and those topless shows in Las Vegas didn't seem so scandalous in an era when pay-per-view porn is available in most homes. Tourism has soared to the point that Las Vegas entertained 37.4 million visitors last year.

Any Vegas stigma evaporated years ago, and even national figures who pontificate on morals are Vegas visitors.

William Bennett, a devout Catholic and political advisor who wrote *The Book of Virtues*, was a high-roller, it was revealed in 2003. His slot machine action totaled as much as \$8 million.

"Las Vegas has just become easier for most Americans to embrace," Rothman says.

Another event played into the hubris Las Vegas is showing for its centennial: Sept. 11, 2001.

Well-heeled Americans who once thought nothing of an overseas vacation are now more cautious. So there stands Las Vegas, where visitors can see an Eiffel Tower without suffering the threat of rude Parisians, glide through the canals of Venice knowing nary a syllable of Italian and even hang out in the land of Ali Baba without fear of a car bomb.

"People feel protected in this environment," Feldman says. "If you stay within certain boundaries, stay at the major hotels, this is the safest place in America."

Says Rothman: "It gives Americans a chance to see the world as they wish it was."

As positive as Las Vegas is about itself — and as much as it may be able to teach other cities about surviving in a service-oriented economy — the city's turn into a second century is not without challenges.

#### TOUGH TIMES

The core city of Las Vegas has not fared as well as the Strip, which is outside the city limits. The main entertainment district, nicknamed Glitter Gulch, is decidedly down at the heels, despite the open-air pedestrian section that has the Fremont Street Experience light-and-sound show.

And just off its main thoroughfares, downtown Las Vegas reveals the roots of its start 100 years ago as a railroad whistle-stop — cheap, shabby homes, concrete block industrial sites and salvage yards.

Mayor Goodman — an unrepentant promoter who hands visitors to his office a faux casino chip with his picture in the center surrounded by the phrase "The Happiest Mayor of the Greatest City in the World" — has typically Vegas grand plans.

He envisions a new city center on 61 acres of downtown land that would have high-density year-round residential condos and apartments, a performing arts center, an academic village, a medical center that would focus on Alzheimer's research and treatment, and a baseball stadium where he envisions a homeless Florida Marlins team one day playing.

"My vision is a more sophisticated, more refined downtown where people live 365 days a year — a Manhattanization process," he says. "I'm bringing in new blood, new money, new ideas."

Still, it's hard to look at the neon and the faux Pyramid of the Luxor and the turrets of Excalibur and see a city for a new century instead of a well-polished adult Disney World.

Will Las Vegas take a place alongside New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Miami as one of America's great metropolises?

"Las Vegas is beginning to evolve into an urban center," Feldman says. "It's not the old days anymore. Las Vegas is a business model that others would do well to follow."

Rothman puts it in terms that anyone who has been to Vegas can understand:

"Don't bet against this place."

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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NBC News Transcripts

SHOW: Dateline NBC 8:00 AM EST NBC

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

LENGTH: 7854 words

HEADLINE: The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker; Investigation of death of Roberto Calvi

REPORTERS: DENNIS MURPHY

BODY:

#### THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF GOD'S BANKER

Announcer: And now, we present The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker. Here is Stone Phillips.

STONE PHILLIPS: Good evening. It's a case with all the elements of a best-selling thriller, "The Da Vinci Code": a gruesome death at a famous landmark, links to a secret society, and a scandal that tarnished the Vatican. But the story we tell tonight is far more chilling than any book, because this is no work of fiction. This mystery is real. Here's Dennis Murphy.

DENNIS MURPHY reporting: (Voiceover) What happened on Blackfriars Bridge—the dead man hanging by the neck—is for some people a mystery shrouded in confusion.

(Time-lapse video of Blackfriars Bridge; view of water from boat; view of bridge from boat; stone statues; photo of Roberto Calvi; photos of evidence)

Mr. RUPERT CORNWELL: This is one of the great, great criminal mysteries of all time.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Was it suicide, or was he the man who knew too much, murdered to keep him from spilling the darkest secrets of the mafia, a shadowy brotherhood or even the Vatican itself?

(Photo of Roberto; file footage of Roberto; bridge; alleyway; P2 symbol; Vatican)

Mr. JEFFREY KATZ: This was a man who was meant to keep his mouth shut, and was threatening not to.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Were there explosive documents naming names inside the black briefcase that went missing, the one the powerful Italian banker was rarely seen without?

(Photo of Roberto; briefcase)

Mr. CORNWELL: It's like a kaleidoscope. You can shake it and get a new theory with each shake of the kaleidoscope.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Puzzles and riddles on London's River Thames.

(River)

MURPHY: It all began here in June of 1982, the Blackfriars Bridge, with a grisly discovery at dawn: the body of a hefty older man, wearing a gold watch and an expensive suit, was found hanging by an orange cord from some scaffolding beneath the bridge. His wallet was stuffed full of cash: \$15,000 worth of European currencies. The water sloshed over custom-made shoes. And there was something else. Inside his pants and in his pockets they found construction bricks, maybe to weigh him down.

Everything pointed to the apparent suicide of a wealthy but unidentified man. The Italian passport in his jacket turned out to be a fake.

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Mr. CORNWELL: The London police, they found his body. They didn't know who it was. There's 60, 70,000 Italians in London at any one time. They didn't have a clue.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) British journalist Rupert Cornwell knew he was onto an enormous story when the dead man was identified as one Roberto Calvi.

(Rupert Cornwell typing; newspaper article)

Mr. CORNWELL: And I realized at once that this had to be Roberto Calvi, the banker.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) The reporter covered financial news from Italy at the time. He knew that Calvi had risen through the ranks to become head of the largest private bank there, and the Vatican. The pope himself was a business partner. That's why Calvi was known as "God's banker," the title of Cornwell's book. The reporter also knew that Italian bank examiners had looked at Calvi's records and found an astonishing \$1.3 billion missing.

(Cornwell walking in city; file footage of Roberto being interviewed; Banco Ambrosiano; Vatican; photo of Roberto and Paul VI; book cover; Cornwell typing; financial documents; hand-written columns of numbers)

Mr. CORNWELL: They confronted him with the facts and basically the game was up at that point.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Just weeks before Calvi's death, at a time when he was convicted of bank fraud and out of jail on appeal, reporter Cornwell was invited to interview the beleaguered banker at his headquarters in Milan.

(Photo of Roberto; photo of Roberto and police officer; Cornwell talking on phone; Banco Ambrosiano)

Mr. CORNWELL: Was led downstairs into the sort of bowels of the bank, and there was Calvi himself. And he clearly didn't want to do this interview, because he hated journalists. I mean, he didn't like—he was a man whose secrecy was in his blood.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Calvi didn't give Cornwell much. Clearly the banker wanted to put an upbeat face on an impossible situation: the bank was collapsing, investors running for the door.

(Photos of Roberto; Banco Ambrosiano)

Mr. CORNWELL: He made obscure references to people who were after him. And it was more what he—his body language was more indicative than anything he really said. And he drummed his fingers all the time on the edge of the table, when he—he was speaking, and then he had this tic on the left of his mouth which moved up and down. It—it was clearly a man who was frightened, no question.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Nine days before he was found dead, Calvi slipped out of Italy, violating the terms of his release from jail, and disappeared.

(Photos of Roberto; Italian city)

Mr. CORNWELL: And nobody knew where he was. He could have been taken by terrorists, he might have been holed up in some beach resort in Italy. He might have had kidnapped, taken prisoner, anything.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) No one expected he'd sneak into Britain, fake passport in hand, and turn up in London—not at the five-star hotels he was accustomed to, but in a modest furnished apartment near the Thames.

(Photo of Roberto; aerial view of London; various London sites)

Mr. CARLO CALVI: My father was caught in between conflicting pressures.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Calvi's son, Carlo—living in Washington at the time with his mother—believes his father had gone to London to prop up his sinking bank with some 11th-hour financing, but planned to return to Italy soon for the appeal of his conviction.

(Carlo Roberto; Carlo holding photo of Roberto; documents; sign on fence)

MURPHY: Tell me about your phone conversations with your father that week he was in London.

Mr. CALVI: My father said that he was—he was—he was working, that he intended to—to go back, and that he intended to go back to the trial—to—to appear at his trial that was coming up in a matter of—of—of weeks.



MURPHY: (Voiceover) But after only two days in London, Roberto Calvi is last reportedly seen at 11:30 PM on June 17th, 1982, leaving his apartment.

(Photo of Roberto; apartment building)

Mr. CORNWELL: He has learned from Milan that his bank, the work of his life, has collapsed beyond any hope of rescue.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Had the man known as God's banker turned over his last card?

(Photo of Roberto and woman)

Mr. CORNWELL: It was just literally the end of the road.

(Voiceover) He wandered out of his apartment at midnight or the small hours of the night—maybe midnight or something like that—and just walked. And if you follow—and he walked down to the river. It's not very far from where he—his lodgings were, and then just turned left and just keep going. All the time his mood getting blacker and blacker. He's looking for somewhere to kill himself. Then gets to the bridge. He sees the scaffolding. There's a building site there, there's the stones and the rope. That is the suicide theory. And it does make a kind of sense.

(Traffic in London at night; photo of Roberto; view from bridge)

MURPHY: (Voiceover) And suicide was the official ruling at the London coroner's inquest that followed.

(Photo of Roberto; newspaper article)

MURPHY: A desperate man on the run, his life in virtual free-fall collapse, it seemed entirely possible that Roberto Calvi might have chosen to end it all here at the Blackfriars Bridge. But to some people it just didn't add up. This, they said, wasn't a case of suicide; this was a staged death to make a very public, very gaudy warning. This, they shouted, was a case of murder right from the pages of a thriller.

Roberto Calvi, murder or suicide?

Mr. KATZ: Murder. No question. No question in my mind.

Announcer: Who could want Roberto Calvi dead? Like the body itself, clues are dangling.

Mr. KATZ: I think he was strangled.

Announcer: When The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker returns.

(Announcements)

Announcer: The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker continues.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) English authorities and a coroner's inquest ruled within days that Italian banker Roberto Calvi committed suicide, hanging himself from scaffolding beneath the Blackfriars Bridge in central London. His son, Carlo, was 28 at the time. He didn't buy the coroner's report then, and doesn't buy it now.

(Bridge; text from coroner's report; photo of Roberto; excerpt from report; bridge; Carlo)

MURPHY: Does anyone in your family believe that your father committed suicide and was not murdered?

Mr. CALVI: No. No. Absolutely no.

MURPHY: Have you wavered yourself?

Mr. CALVI: No. No, never.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Carlo Calvi is obsessed with finding the answers to his father's death. For more than two decades now his family has financed its own investigation. Lawyers, private eyes, forensic experts—mountains of reports. The family says \$20 million worth so far.

(Carlo looking at photos of Roberto; Carlo looking through files)

MURPHY: You were close to him as a father.

Mr. CALVI: I was very close to him. He was not as—as cold or impersonal as has been sometimes portrayed.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) In the biography told by family snapshots, Calvi, his wife and son, seemed happiest in the lakes and mountains of northern Italy where he grew up. He fought the Russians in World War II, and later rocketed through the ranks of a sleepy provincial bank in Milan called Ambrosiano. The local Catholic priests banked there. By the mid-'70s, though, with Calvi's bank booming, he was doing business for the pope himself, Paul VI. He moved about with bodyguards in armored cars, hobnobbed and networked with the most powerful men in Italy—industrialists, politicians—and along the way became money man to some very dangerous characters.

(Photos of Roberto with others; file footage of Roberto; photos of Roberto with others)

Mr. CORNWELL: Calvi was one of the most notorious people in the country. There were rumors of a colossal bank fraud.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Calvi's son, who never bought the suicide theory, assumed that one of his father's associates—someone or some organization left holding the bag as the bank melted down—had conspired to murder him. But the son wondered, who? Lots of people had motives. His father was rumored to be banking illicit money for the mafia, a dangerous game.

(Carlo; photo of Roberto; person counting cash)

Mr. CORNWELL: There was a hit on Calvi's deputy up in Milan about six weeks before the bank collapsed, and it was known to have been carried out by figures linked to the mafia.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) But if Roberto Calvi's death was murder, could it be proven? The Calvi family turned to private detectives.

(Bridge; river; Jeffrey Katz walking on bridge with reporter)

Mr. KATZ: He was found hanging on scaffolding. There were actually two sections of scaffolding which were just in front of the—the first arch of the bridge.

MURPHY: So some temporary scaffolding put up for maintenance, painting, like that?

Mr. KATZ: That's right. That's right.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Among the investigators the family hired to get the answers was Jeffrey Katz, a detective with the Kroll Associates Agency at the time.

(Katz and reporter on bridge)

MURPHY: Was your investigative brief working for the family to prove that Calvi was murdered, or was it a 'Let the chips fall where they may'?

Mr. KATZ: It was very much 'Let the chips fall when they—where they may.' I mean, I think we made that clear with them from the beginning, that we would try and find out what happened, but we couldn't promise what the outcome was going to be.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Nine years after Calvi's death, Katz and the other private investigators hired by his son tried to build a timeline and understand what had happened at the bridge. There was a temporary scaffolding on the bridge accessible by a narrow ladder.

(Traffic across bridge at night; underneath bridge; scaffolding; photo of ladder)

Mr. KATZ: You'd have to believe that he—he walked along the parapets here...

(Voiceover) ...climbed down a ladder very similar to that, walked along the foreshore onto the scaffolding—there were some planks going across part of the scaffolding then shimmied the rest of the way along the scaffolding to the point where he was found...

(Photo of bridge; photo of ladder; photo of ground underneath bridge; reporter and Katz; scaffolding)

Mr. KATZ: ...where he tied the rope, put it around his neck, and let himself fall.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Almost a decade after Calvi's death, the family investigator staged a reconstruction of the

incident. They concluded the hefty Calvi simply wouldn't have been up to the gymnastics required to maneuver himself into position where the noose was tied, especially with his pockets full of bricks.

(Men in boat on river beside bridge and scaffolding; photo of ladder; scaffolding in water)

Mr. KATZ: He wasn't someone who was used to climbing around bridges and scaffolding and ladders and that sort of thing. So for him to find himself in a fairly desolate part of London at 1:00 in the morning, and manage to find a bit of rope and hang himself on some scaffolding which he wouldn't have known was there, seems highly improbable. He also suffered from vertigo, which makes it that much more unlikely that he would have been able to go through the acrobatics that he would have had to do in order to be found where he was found.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) And investigators had another clue. When they staged another reconstruction of the suicide theory, they had a stand-in for Calvi walk across the rusty iron bars of the original scaffolding wearing shoes with leather soles just like the ones he had that night. Forensic specialists studied the shoe bottoms later and found unmistakable traces of rust left by the scaffold. But when they examined the shoes Calvi actually wore the night he died, the soles appeared gouged, but showed no sign of rust. Clean.

(Photo of evidence; scaffolding in water; photo of bar; photo of bars; photo of sole of shoe; photo of bar; photos of shoe soles)

MURPHY: Clean shoes, no scaffolding...

Mr. KATZ: Correct.

MURPHY: ...no suicide?

Mr. KATZ: Precisely. He could not have walked on that scaffolding in those shoes.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) So if not suicide, then it must be murder. But how did the body end up there, in such a truly odd setting?

(Bridge)

Mr. CORNWELL: It doesn't seem a very likely way of killing someone. It really doesn't.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) While working for the Calvi family, Katz developed an intricate murder theory: that Calvi had been lured to London by some underworld Italian figures as part of a contract hit, theorizing in the dark of night he was brought onto a boat waiting in the River Thames, perhaps by the shady characters who had accompanied him.

(London at night; view from boat of bridge and river)

MURPHY: What do you think happened on the boat?

Mr. KATZ: I think he was strangled on the boat and he was then placed on the scaffolding.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) The investigators hired by the Calvi family tested their theory by putting two men in an inflatable boat. How difficult would it be at night on the Thames to skulk undetected between the Blackfriars Bridge and attach a noose fastened around the neck of a dummy to the scaffolding? In the video, not very difficult at all. The boat pulls away, leaving the hanged man floating in the river.

(Men in boat on river next to scaffolding and bridge)

MURPHY: If it sounds like a lot of effort to go to to dispose a body, there are people who will tell you—believers in one particular conspiracy theory—why it all makes sense, and it has everything to do with the esoteric beliefs and lore of the Freemasons, a secret society that goes back hundreds of years. Symbols are important to the Masons. In Italy, one order of Masons is known by the name "frati neri," the Black Friars.

The theory is this final boat ride up the Thames, dark of night?

Mr. CORNWELL: Yes. Exactly.

MURPHY: Stringing the body up?

Mr. CORNWELL: Yes, and you can presume perhaps was it a Masonic gesture, Blackfriars?

MURPHY: (Voiceover) We know that Calvi was a Freemason—not the Masons as they are known in the United States, but a member of an out outlawed secret sect in Italy that had broken away from the mainstream order. Reportedly the clandestine group called one another Blackfriars, and used the traditional Masonic symbols of bricklayers and builders. Did his killers stuff bricks in Calvi's trousers as a symbo—a warning to others in the renegade secret society?

(People walking past Masonic temple in New York; Masonic symbol on flag; P2 symbol; Italian city; sign on Blackfriars Bridge; mason tools carved in frieze; bricks)

Mr. KATZ: Many people have assumed that that was meant to be Masonic symbolism.

MURPHY: What about that? Does it matter that it's the Blackfriars Bridge and not any of the other dozen or more bridges on the Thames?

Mr. KATZ: I think it probably does.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Was his body left dangling in water just as the initiation rites threatened would happen to a brother—a friar as they called themselves—who talked about their secrets?

(View of London from bridge; Masonic tools, symbols and book)

MURPHY: A lot of people are fascinated by the Masonic link—the alleged Masonic link and the lore of the Blackfriars sending a message.

Mr. KATZ: Yes. Yes.

MURPHY: The dead man whose feet drag in water, the ghost won't walk to tell stories.

Mr. KATZ: Is there something to that? I think that there is, only in the sense that it was meant to send the message that people who know secrets should keep their mouths shut.

MURPHY: There are a lot of people that see symbols here, symbols of the Masons.

Mr. CALVI: I take seriously the symbolic elements.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) In Italy almost immediately after Calvi's death, speculation in the media and the buzz on the streets had the out outlawed Masons as suspects in the supposed murder of Roberto Calvi. It's a trail that takes the story to Rome, and ever-expanding circles of conspiracy.

(Statue; Italian city at night; P2 symbol; photo of Roberto)

Announcer: Theories and questions.

MURPHY: Was your father in the secret society?

Announcer: The secret society, the mafia underworld, and the Vatican, when the Mysterious Death Of God's Banker returns.

(Announcements)

Announcer: Banker to the mob and the Vatican, dead.

MURPHY: Was he afraid of the Vatican?

Mr. CALVI: He was afraid of the Vatican.

MURPHY: Why?

Announcer: The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker continues in a moment.

(Announcements)

Announcer: The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker continues. Here again is Stone Phillips.

PHILLIPS: A riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma. For more than 20 years, no one has been able to explain the puzzling death of financial giant Roberto Calvi, powerful banker to the Vatican. His body was found dangling from London's Blackfriars Bridge. Was this murder? If so, who was behind it? Some see a link to a secret society, and now the search for answers involves some of the most powerful people in Italy. Here again, Dennis Murphy.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Tourist Italy today is a very different place than the turbulent Italy in the 1970s, when Roberto Calvi was in his heyday, keeping the most powerful of company. His private bank, the Ambrosiano, enjoying phenomenal growth.

But outside his world of silk suits and fat-cat deals in the mid-'70s, into the '80s, Cold War extremists were spilling blood into the streets—85 dead in the bombing of a train station in Bologna, the terrorists known as the Red Brigade claiming responsibility for the kidnapping and murder of former Premier Aldo Moro.

Alexander Stille, a professor who teaches international journalism, has written about those days of civil unrest.

(Tourists in Italian cities; photo of Roberto; Ambrosiano; photo of Roberto and man; file footage of protests and terrorist incidents; Alexander Stille working)

Mr. ALEXANDER STILLE: It's a country that's on the front line of the Cold War. It has the largest Communist Party in western Europe.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) To combat the mayhem, the assassination, a secret society was formed to keep the leftists from coming to power democratically. The group adopted some of the symbolic trappings of the Freemasons. Meeting in secret conclaves and Roman hotels and Masonic temples, they called their society Propaganda Due, or P2. Members of P2 funded right-wing political parties, and bought the nation's most influential newspaper in an attempt to sway public opinion against the leftists. It grew to an organization perhaps 1,000 strong that was nothing less than a shadow Italian government, the true power-brokers of the country.

(File footage of protesters; shot-up car; Freemason symbols; hotels; P2 symbol; newsstand; newspapers; candle)

MURPHY: Was your father in the secret society, P2?

Mr. CALVI: My father was a member of the P2 lodge.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Roberto Calvi, ambitions banker that he was, used the lodge to forge personal ties and business relationships with the heavy-hitters of Italy.

(Photo of Roberto; photo of Roberto with men at table, their faces blurred)

Mr. CORNWELL: I think Calvi joined it, like everyone joined this kind of lodge, because it's a very high-class form of networking.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) That network was kept under wraps until a year before Calvi was found on the London bridge, when Italian authorities raided the home and office of the group's grand master and discovered a membership list—big names, powerful names.

(London, bridge in foreground; P2 office building; text from membership list)

Mr. CORNWELL: Many people in the Italian establishment—politicians, generals, various other people, magistrates, and also financial people, like Calvi.

MURPHY: And journalists? And generals?

Mr. CORNWELL: And journalists, generals. Everybody, yes.

Mr. HARRY REASONER: (From TV news broadcast) A scandal involving a secret Masonic lodge.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) There was a furor when it was revealed that the secret society was a deeply corrupt organization...

(Men reading posted Italian newspaper; newspapers)

Offscreen Voice: (From TV news broadcast) A parliamentary committee claims the lodge is a hidden center of power.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) ...a conduit for freewheeling bribes and kickbacks between businessmen and politicians.

(Newspaper cover pages; list of names of members)

MURPHY: So these big politicians, big business guys, would use your father's bank for what? Transactions and move money around?

Mr. CALVI: Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

MURPHY: What exactly was going on with Calvi? Well, word on the Italian street had Calvi's bank involved in the shadiest of deals—things like funnelling laundered money to finance anti-communist revolutions. There were millions stashed away in Swiss bank accounts labeled only "protection."

(Voiceover) In the final weeks of his life, according to his son, Calvi was out of jail awaiting a new trial on corrupt banking charges and went to London hoping to cut a last-minute deal to save his bank. As in the past, had he turned to his Masonic brethren for money?

(File footage of Roberto, police officers and others; London at night; Big Ben; Masonic symbols)

Mr. CORNWELL: Before the flight he would refer to a thing called the (foreign phrase spoken), which is the London lodge, as if it were some kind of shadowy body of Freemasons in London who could, at the 11th hour, get his bank out of trouble.

(Masonic temple; feet of people walking in city; man carrying briefcase)

MURPHY: (Voiceover) And if that last-ditch effort failed, was there a threat that Calvi would tell all he knew? Maybe prosecutors eager to convict some crooked politicians and businessmen would cut him a lenient deal in exchange for his spilling the beans about the brotherhood's cozy scheme. Did some members of the secret society decide that Calvi posed too great a risk?

(Photo of Roberto; sign posted on fence; men carrying overcoats; people standing outside courthouse; photo of Robert; P2 symbol)

Mr. STILLE: Calvi had information about important political people that could have brought down governments and—and changed political alliances in Italy.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Did the secret society kill to get possession of Calvi's black briefcase, with all his detailed banking records? Did they give orders to string him up on the Blackfriars Bridge with what some saw as Masonic symbolism: the bricks, the body washed by tides, the warning that no one lives to tell their secrets?

The P2 Masons are only the first suspects for those who believe it was murder. The second group of suspects was the Italian mob—the Cosa Nostra. Like the secret society, Italian criminal indictments tell us the mafia also banked with Roberto Calvi. In the 1970s, the Sicilian mob began moving a new best-selling product: heroin.

(Briefcase; bridge seen from river at night; bricks; water; photo of Roberto's body; Masonic tools and Bible; lamppost; alley; shadows in city at night; silhouette; river)

Mr. STILLE: With that come billions and billions of dollars. The mafia is rich in a way it's never been before.

(Voiceover) And then that creates a serious problem. What do you do with all of this money?

(Italian currency)

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Italian prosecutors say what the mobsters did was to give the money to Calvi's bank, and for a good reason. He'd devised the system of hiding ill-gotten money—laundering it by bouncing it from country to country through phony companies he'd set up and so-called "branch banks" not much more than an office and a telephone. The mobsters, with bags of virtually untraceable cash thanks to Calvi, were free to buy their way into straight businesses, and did.

(Bank; bank vault closing; items on table in office; map; items on table in office; safety deposit boxes; Italian currency; vault)

Mr. STILLE: They were able to insert themselves at a very high level in very powerful, legitimate businesses.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) When the find-the-money shell game was working, everyone was happy. But with Calvi's bank teetering on collapse—and some say \$300 million of the mafia's money gone missing—it becomes theory number two of why the banker is found dead on the bridge.

(Calculator and files; tape from calculator; Banco Ambrosiano; statue; bridge at night)

Mr. CORNWELL: When the bank collapsed the mafia would have actually lost money, and the mafia doesn't like

losing money.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) It's not a stretch for some amateur detectives to see overlapping circles in the mystery. The secret Masonic lodge members may have had a motive to kill, and maybe they used the mafia to carry out the hit, which had its own reasons for wanting him dead.

There is a third circle of conspiracy theory, though, and it involves one of the single largest shareholders in the Calvi bank: the Vatican.

(Statue on bridge; Masonic tools; shadowy figures; shadows on street; sun shining through trees; Vatican steeple)

MURPHY: Was he afraid of the Vatican?

Mr. CALVI: He was afraid of the Vatican.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Had God's banker committed a mortal sin? Did an American archbishop, a top lieutenant to the pope, know anything about how a man came to be hanging from a bridge?

(Photo of Roberto kissing Paul VI's hand; Paul Marcinkus)

Announcer: The bishop and the banker, secrets at the Vatican?

Mr. CORNWELL: I think it's probably the worst moment of the church in modern times.

Announcer: When The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker returns.

(Announcements)

Announcer: We return to The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Roberto Calvi was more than banker to the murky secret society of Italian Masons, more than the mafia's alleged money launderer. He kept company and did business with a third society at times every bit as impenetrable as the first two.

(Bridge at night; statuary from bridge; photo of Roberto; Rome; photo of Roberto talking on phone; bishop entering Vatican)

Mr. CORNWELL: I looked across the river and there was Calvi having dinner with a table of priests in red and black. It sealed the image of Calvi. He—he was God's banker, if you like. He was the church's banker.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) But the Vatican's principal banker—financial advisor to popes, an observant Catholic himself—ended up dangling from a noose beneath a bridge in London. Did his role as the pope's banker explain in any way a desperate man's still-ambiguous death?

For the tens of thousands who fill St. Peter's square at the Vatican each Sunday for the papal blessing, the Roman Catholic Church is a spiritual entity. But like any institution, it takes money to keep it all running. In the late '70s the Vatican needed banking savvy like Calvi's.

(Photo of Roberto; photo of Roberto and Paul VI; photo of Roberto kissing Paul VI's hand; photo of noose; underside of bridge; photo of Roberto; people in St. Peter's Square; Paul VI reading message to crowd; people in crowd; money in basket; Vatican)

Mr. CORNWELL: The Vatican in those days—and to a certain extent now—is not a wealthy institution, in terms of its day-to-day cash flow.

(Voiceover) You can't sell off the Sistine Chapel, you can't sell off all the works of art scattered in Catholic cathedrals around the world.

(Paintings on ceiling of Sistine Chapel)

Mr. CORNWELL: It relies on a kind of cash inflow, and often that was not enough to cover its operating expenses.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Enter Calvi. His bank had been ending to the church going back to the 19th century. He'd somehow transformed the once-sleepy institution into a gigantic money machine.

(Roberto; Banco Ambrosiano; Roberto)

Mr. CORNWELL: It is quite clear that dealing with Calvi offered the Vatican access to quite a large amount of money, which helped with its daily financing.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) The Vatican has its own internal bank, distinct from Calvi's, and the man appointed by the pope to run it at the time Calvi entered the picture was an American archbishop, Paul Marcinkus. The bishop and the banker forged a business relationship that would end in disgrace for both.

Bishop Marcinkus, a window-washer's son, had come a long way from the rough-and-tumble of south side Chicago.

(Photos of rooms in Vatican; photo of Paul VI and Marcinkus; file footage of Marcinkus; Roberto, police officers and others; Marcinkus and blurred-faced man)

Mr. TIM UNSWORTH: When he walks around the Vatican, doors open.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Tim Unsworth, a columnist for the National Catholic Reporter, has covered Marcinkus' rise from street-wise priest to one of the pope's top assistants.

(Tim Unsworth)

Mr. UNSWORTH: You know, the—the word goes out, 'Don't mess with this guy.'

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Archbishop Marcinkus had no background in finance, but he liked what he saw in Roberto Calvi: a banker who seemed to know how to make money hand-over-fist. And Marcinkus may have been under pressure to deliver just that.

In 1978 the church had a new pope, John Paul II, who, according to a few published reports backed up by the Calvi family, is described as secretly diverting Vatican money to fight communist movements in Europe and Latin America. According to conversations Calvi had when he didn't know he was being taped, he alluded to millions his bank was sending to the pope's political causes—significantly, Solidarity the an anti-communist movement in Poland, the pope's homeland.

(Still image of Marcinkus; still image of Roberto; photo of Marcinkus; Vatican; John Paul II; vault; Vatican; John Paul II and Marcinkus; Ambrosiano; Roberto; John Paul II in parade; crowds watching parade; John Paul II in Poland)

MURPHY: Did you put any weight to the theory that money was shifted to political movements, to Solidarity in particular?

Mr. CORNWELL: I think it's possible, yes. The only clues we have of this is what Calvi told his lawyer. 'If any of this stuff comes out it'll be enough to start World War III.' But remember, this is a man who was prone to exaggerate anyway so you have to kind of weigh it all out.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) At the time, disclosures that the spiritual pastor of the Catholic Church may have been intervening in very earthly East/West power struggles could have been used against the Vatican as political dynamite. Even though, as events turned out, the pope's very public support of solidarity—for historians, anyway—may be his most lasting legacy, since the Polish labor movement turned out to be the first push that ultimately toppled the Soviet empire.

But at the time, Calvi was doing more than raising funds for the pope. He was also apparently moving mob money through Vatican bank accounts that were safe from the eyes of any bank examiners or government investigators. Secret accounts, dirty money flowing through the Vatican like water—the kind of explosive information prosecutors would later say could be used to blackmail the Vatican. A dangerous game, but for Roberto Calvi, worth the risks.

(John Paul II in parades and various settings; photo of Roberto; Italian currency; barred door; safety deposit boxes; Vatican; photo of Roberto)

Mr. CORNWELL: Calvi was using the Vatican because it was this complete shield and barrier for all his nefarious overseas operations.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) So the question becomes, how much, if anything, did Bishop Marcinkus and the Vatican know about Calvi using their accounts as cover for his shady banking ventures overseas, and with the mafia and corrupt politicians in the secret society? Reporter Cornwell once asked the bishop that question.

(Marcinkus; bank documents; photo of Roberto; Cornwell)



Mr. CORNWELL: I remember him talking to me, sitting back in his chair, wreathed in his—wreathed in cigar smoke, and denying everything, absolutely denying everything.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) This much we do know: that Marcinkus sat on the board of one of Calvi's offshore branch banks in the Bahamas, and had a personal relationship with him, even occasionally staying in the family home.

(Sailboat; Ambrosiano branch; photo of Marcinkus; photo of Roberto)

Mr. CORNWELL: I think he knew that the Vatican's name was being used to conceal some pretty dodgy operations. I think it was in his interest not to inquire too deeply.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) How damaging would it have been for Marcinkus and the Vatican if Calvi had talked to authorities in the weeks before he died, when his banking shell game fell apart, when stock in Calvi's bank plummeted, the bank in the hole for the astounding sum of \$1.3 billion.

(Photo of Marcinkus and John Paul II; Roberto in court; stock market floor; Ambrosiano)

Mr. CORNWELL: When the game was up, when he could keep this balancing act going no longer, he went to the Vatican in desperation.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Previously Calvi had asked for—and the Vatican provided—letters, including this one to his anxious investors that said, in effect, the Vatican stood behind Calvi's financial ventures in Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, and Panama—not surprising since the Vatican was one of the largest single shareholders in Calvi's bank. But when his bank finally crashed around him, and he went back to the Vatican to remind Bishop Marcinkus and other officials of the letters and their implied promise to stand by their mutual debts, he was told...

(Vatican; letter; excerpts from letter; Vatican; photo of Roberto; Vatican)

Mr. CORNWELL: 'No. (Foreign phrase spoken) They're yours. End of story.'

MURPHY: Why do you think the Vatican cut him off, didn't—didn't help him when he got into trouble?

Mr. CORNWELL: I think the Vatican didn't really quite know the extent of the fraud. It refused to help Calvi, and I think probably from the Vatican's point of view, that was a mistake.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Archbishop Marcinkus was disgraced in the ensuing scandal, stripped by the Vatican of banking duties. Italian prosecutors were after him as well. They issued an arrest warrant indicting him for bankruptcy fraud in 1987. And from that day to this Marcinkus has never answered questions from authority about Calvi and the Vatican bank.

(Newspaper article; warrant; photo of Marcinkus; excerpt from warrant; Marcinkus)

MURPHY: Something to remember: The 100 acres of Vatican City is its own sovereign little country. It issues its own passports, has its own government, its own laws, and answers to no one but God. Italian authorities in the mid-'80s wanted to grill Marcinkus about the activities of the Vatican bank, but as a one-time very important player in this little city/state, he successfully claimed immunity from prosecution. He was the pope's untouchable.

(Voiceover) Marcinkus lived until his retirement in 1990, confined inside the walls of the Vatican. For a time he risked arrest if he stepped outside St. Peter's Square. The sordid Calvi affair had stained the church.

(Aerial view of Vatican; Vatican; aerial view of Vatican and St. Peter's Square; statue of St. Peter)

Mr. CORNWELL: It was an incredible embarrassment. I think it's probably the most embarrassing moment of the church in the modern times, in the modern papacy.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Calvi's son thinks that once the Vatican abandoned his father, without the protection of the pope in his corner, he was like a wounded animal—alone, vulnerable to his many enemies and creditors, some of whom the Calvi family believes conspired to murder him. Did that make the church morally complicit in his death? No credible scholar of the Calvi story sees the Vatican's fingerprints on the banker's demise. But some think Archbishop Marcinkus has a moral duty to tell what he may know.

(Carlo and reporter walking; photos of Roberto; river; bridge at night; Marcinkus)

Mr. UNSWORTH: Where's the money? Who did the hit? How did this ever get to be such a mess?

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Bishop Marcinkus is in his eighties now, living in retirement in Arizona, and still claiming Vatican immunity from any prosecution or inquest—mute on the subject of Roberto Calvi. Both the Vatican and Marcinkus declined to talk to DATELINE, but the bishop did respond to our request with a letter, writing, "I appreciate your asking, but have no reason to change a long-standing policy. I am too old to reenter the fray. No offense meant, best wishes."

There will be more questions and coming soon from Italian prosecutors in Rome. After nearly 25 years, there have been indictments for the murder of Roberto Calvi, banker to the outlawed Masons, the mafia, and the Catholic Church.

(Marcinkus; Marcinkus' letter; excerpts from letter; photo of Roberto's body; bridge at night)

Announcer: Coming up on DATELINE, Friday, from the heart of Las Vegas, a celebrated court case they're still talking about.

Unidentified Attorney #1: (In court) This case is about lust. It is about abject greed.

Announcer: From lovers to co-defendants in two different trials. Did they kill a Vegas millionaire and try to steal \$8 million in buried silver?

Unidentified Attorney #2: (In court) My client wasn't there. Do you understand that?

Announcer: They went to prison once. Would the retrial send them back? A white-knuckle case, a stunning verdict, a DATELINE/Court TV Exclusive.

And next, the missing briefcase reappears. What clues does it hold? When the Mysterious Death Of God's Banker returns.

(Announcements)

Announcer: We continue with The Mysterious Death Of God's Banker on DATELINE with Stone Phillips.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) More than two decades on, the mystery of the death of God's banker is still as murky as the water flowing beneath the Blackfriars Bridge.

(Bridge at night; statuary on bridge; underside of bridge; river under bridge; photo of Roberto's body; river under bridge)

Mr. CORNWELL: All of these elements swirling around a case which has never been satisfactorily explained, whose riddle is basically in the character of the man himself—this very secretive, very furtive, very elusive, very mysterious individual.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) If Roberto Calvi's life was a mystery, perhaps it's no surprise his death would be, too, or that the clue that might unravel events would come from an informant, a mafia snitch. Former prosecutor Francesco Dileo started investigating this case in the mid-'80s.

(Roberto, police and others; river; traffic on bridge at night; photo of Roberto; river; Francesco Dileo)

Mr. FRANCESCO DILEO: (Through translator) And we can say with certainty—with certainty—that Calvi by then had extremely close ties with Italian criminal organizations.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Last month, after decades of investigation, Italian prosecutors issued what in America would be called an indictment. They rejected the early British finding of a suicide and were now officially charging what rumors had it all long: a murder, a mafia hit by four conspirators.

(Bridge at night; legal document; text from document)

Mr. KATZ: I think he got into bed with some very dangerous people.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) By now, Calvi's private detectives had reached the same conclusion as the Italian prosecutors.

(Katz and reporter on bridge)

MURPHY: Not only God's banker, he was the godfather's banker, true?

Mr. KATZ: It would appear that he certainly had a great many dealings with people who were associated with the mafia, that's true.

NBC News Transcripts May 11, 2005 Wednesday

MURPHY: (Voiceover) The motive, as old as time: money. With the collapse of the bank, Calvi owed the mob millions—he owed the mob millions. But the Italian prosecutors also allude to the potential threat Calvi posed to the Vatican, and the powerful members of the secret society: his ability to blackmail them.

(River; Italian currency; Ambrosiano; photo of Roberto; Vatican; Masonic tools and Bible)

MURPHY: And if he knew and was threatening to talk, what were the consequences for them?

Mr. KATZ: Well, precisely, I mean, their careers would have been ruined, they—they would have had to resign, many of them might have been prosecuted. The Italian political scene would have been turned completely on its head.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Prosecutors say it went down like this: Calvi's friends had abandoned him, his powerful associates in the secret society were running for cover, their names splashed in the papers. His Vatican protection had disappeared. Fearing for his life, trusting no one, Calvi fled his country estate near Milan with the help of a long time family friend, Flavio Carboni.

(Photo of Roberto; P2 symbol; men reading posted newspapers; Vatican; photo of Roberto; Flavio Carboni)

Mr. CORNWELL: He couldn't take anyone at face value. Everyone was suspect, everyone was a potential foe. And when you get into that frame of mind, you can't believe anybody, you don't know whether they're telling the truth or a lie.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) Calvi's family friend turned out to be a mob associate—his bodyguard, a small-time hood. At the banker's side: his briefcase packed with his secrets. Carlo Calvi says his father called the family daily, telling them he was on the verge of a breakthrough in London, something that would solve all their problems. Prosecutors now believe he'd been fed a lie about help awaiting in London, simply to lure him out of Italy. Mob leaders worried that killing God's banker at home would cause an uproar.

(Traffic in London at night; briefcase; photo of Calvi family; bridge in London at night; shadow on brick wall)

Mr. KATZ: London may not have been his choice. He was traveling with people who said 'We will take you here and we will take you there.' And basically he had turned his safety over to them, didn't really have a lot of choice about that.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) The hit, prosecutors now believe, was ordered by Giuseppe "Pippo" Calo, the mob treasurer. He, authorities say, called on figures from the London underworld to rub Calvi out. The final scenario: much like the private investigator's demonstration. Calvi's briefcase with those all-important secrets had vanished not to be seen again publicly until four years after his death.

On April Fool's Day 1986, in a move not unlike the spectacle of opening Al Capone's vault, Calvi's briefcase turned up on, of all things, an Italian television show. By then, the briefcase's secrets, if any, were long gone.

But inside the bag were several letters allegedly from Calvi to a Vatican monsignor close to the pope, his confessor. Calvi was begging for a loan from the church. May 12th, 1982, he writes, "A need to procure 250 to \$300 million has become paramount." On June 6th, 1982, Calvi's saying he's lost all hope, implies that he needs "a loan of \$300 million within the next 10 days." What is the deadline Calvi felt he had to meet with a \$300 million payment? On June 18th, 1982, 12 days after that last letter, he was found dead in London.

(Bridge at night; photo of Roberto's body; photos of evidence; file footage of Giuseppe Calo in police custody; river; men in boat in river next to bridge and scaffold; briefcase; file footage of men investigating briefcase; briefcase; Vatican; excerpts from letters; river; photo of Roberto; bridge and river)

MURPHY: After nearly a quarter of a century, the mysteries that shroud the demise of God's banker may finally be resolved. The four accused of conspiring to murder Roberto Calvi will be tried here in Rome in October.

(Voiceover) But even now, Carlo Calvi does not believe the trial will give him the justice he wants.

(Bridge at night; statuary on bridge; photos of Roberto)

MURPHY: And there may be more embarrassing revelations about your father. You know that?

Mr. CALVI: But I think that it's the price to pay to get to the fi—final truth, and the final truth is that there was someone higher up. Clearly there is someone higher up that I do not...

MURPHY: Other than the four people named in the indictment?

Mr. CALVI: Yes.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) But who? There are so many possibilities.

(Bridge at night)

Mr. KATZ: Certainly there are a combination of interests, of people who—who would perhaps preferred to have seen him out of the way.

MURPHY: (Voiceover) All four of the suspects deny wrongdoing. Suspect Pippo Calo is already behind bars, serving life for several murders. Two others are hiding out. Renato Borzoni, the lawyer for the fourth person—Calvi's alleged mob turncoat friend—denies his client is in the mob and maintains his innocence.

(River; photos of suspects; Renato Borzoni)

Mr. RENATO BORZONI: (Through translator) We are totally convinced that this is a case of suicide.

MURPHY: For the millions of people who tingle with delight at a good conspiracy theory, Blackfriars Bridge—like Dealy Plaza, like Roswell, New Mexico—has become a special place. In the hanged man you can find the story that pleases you most. And no matter how many confessions, how many inquests, how many trials there may be, none is likely to answer to everyone's satisfaction the most basic of questions: Was it murder or was it suicide?

Mr. CORNWELL: The final riddle of where all that money went, who was being financed, who killed Calvi, are still mysteries. That's what makes this thing so intriguing. And I've often thought that one day someone will come along and tell the truth, and no one will believe them.

PHILLIPS: After the collapse of Roberto Calvi's bank, in what was called a "good-will gesture," the Vatican volunteered to pay creditors \$250 million without acknowledging any wrongdoing in the banking scandal. The Vatican, remember, was one of the largest single shareholders in Calvi's bank.

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May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
Final Edition

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. B1

**LENGTH:** 818 words

**HEADLINE:** Bills omit gambling treatment

**BYLINE:** Rob Christensen, Staff Writer

**BODY:**

North Carolina is moving closer to creating a state lottery without specific plans for providing help to those who become gambling addicts — despite indications that some Tar Heels already gamble too much in neighboring states.

Both houses of the General Assembly have passed versions of lottery legislation, with lawmakers expected to try to work out the differences. But the bills include no provisions for something that is found in many other states with lotteries — a treatment and prevention program for those who cannot control their gambling.

Officials in neighboring states say they see anecdotal evidence that some North Carolinians are having problems controlling their spending when they cross state lines to play a lottery.

"We've had a lot of phone calls from North Carolina looking for services," said Stephen Dutton, an official with the South Carolina agency that handles alcohol and drug abuse treatment. "They are looking for treatment, looking for services. Somebody's mother, father, sister or brother is gambling their paycheck away. They are riding across the [state] line and spending all their money on a lottery ticket."

Dutton said the requests for help were scattered but were frequent enough for him to contact health officials in North Carolina. During a recent week, Dutton said, the South Carolina hot line received five calls from Tar Heels.

Sen. Tony Rand, a Fayetteville Democrat who leads the Senate lottery committee, said it was an oversight that no money was included for prevention or treatment of gambling abuse. Rand said he expects money for anti-gambling treatment to be included in the final version of the bill.

State Rep. Bill Owens, one of the lottery's chief sponsors, said it was the intent of the legislature to fund a gambling treatment program, even though it does not say so in the bills. Owens said it has been assumed that if a lottery becomes reality, the state commission that operates it will set aside money for treatment.

"At the end of the day, I'm sure it will be covered by either the legislature or by the commission's actions," said Owens, a Democrat from Elizabeth City.

Of the 48 states that have some form of legalized gambling, nearly half have a state-funded treatment or prevention program, said Keith Whyte, executive director of the National Council on Problem Gambling, which is based in Washington.

The South Carolina legislature put aside \$1 million in unclaimed prize money to start a gambling treatment program. Virginia spends \$25,000 on a hot line for gamblers. Georgia puts aside \$200,000 annually from uncollected lottery tickets to finance its program.

Whyte said it is important for states, when they create a lottery, to start programs that prevent children from gambling and treat those who can't control their gambling. He said the national standard among health professionals is 1 percent of lottery revenues.

"It affects a small number of citizens, but it can do an enormous amount of damage," Whyte said. "If the state is going

to legalize gambling, we think the state has a big responsibility to take 1 percent of the revenue and put that into programs. It is more ethical and cost-effective to prevent a problem rather than trying to pick up the pieces afterwards."

Whyte said his organization's national hot line for gamblers got 2,046 calls last year from North Carolina area codes.

"It's interesting to us there is such volume," Whyte said. "I think it shows that just because you don't have legalized gambling doesn't mean you don't have a significant number of people with gambling problems. Clearly, there are people going to Virginia and South Carolina to buy lottery tickets. Folks are going to Vegas. Folks are going to Harrah's at Cherokee. Folks are betting on Blue Devil games."

Whyte said it is difficult to say what effect lotteries have on gambling abuse because of the lack of studies.

"There is certainly a link between increased accessibility and increased promotion and higher incidents of gambling problems," Whyte said. "But we can't tell directly what it is going to be."

But he said that in states such as Oregon, which has a well-funded anti-gambling effort, the rates of abuse either have stayed the same or decreased.

South Carolina saw no increase in gambling abuse when it started its lottery. South Carolina already had widespread video poker parlors, which Dutton described as "the crack cocaine" of gambling. Video poker is legal in North Carolina, but it is not as widespread as it was in South Carolina before legislators there outlawed it.

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#### PROBLEM GAMBLING

As much as 3 percent of the adult population has a problem with gambling, which is classified by the American Psychiatric Association as a disease that can be diagnosed and treated. Problem gambling is defined as uncontrollable gambling behavior that disrupts a major area of a person's life: psychological, physical, social or vocational.

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The News-Press (Fort Myers, Florida)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. 5C

**LENGTH:** 619 words

**HEADLINE:** Miami has not yet truly revealed itself

**BYLINE:** Deron Snyder

**BODY:**

By Deron Snyder

MIAMI

We haven't learned much about the Heat through two playoff victories against Washington and a four-game sweep against New Jersey, at least not much new.

Which means that for all of its dominance - its 59 wins, top seed in the East, two All-Stars and solid bench - Miami is still a bit unproven.

We really don't know what to expect once the real test(s) begins.

The Heat would have the home-court advantage against Detroit in the Eastern Conference Finals, but that's not enough for Vegas. One internet site has the Pistons as 2-1 favorites to win the NBA championship. San Antonio was tied with Miami (8-5), followed closely by Phoenix (9-5.)

A video on Shaquille O'Neal's odyssey from LSU to Miami was shown prior to Tuesday's 108-102 victory at AmericanAirlines Arena. We were reminded of O'Neal's pledge upon his arrival, that he came to win championships, "two or three," before retiring with the Heat.

But the first one is the hardest, and finishing the job is more difficult than getting in position.

The Heat haven't had any trouble reaching this point. They won 14 consecutive games beginning in early December and embarked on a 12-game streak in late February. The only time they lost more than two in a row was in late April, when a stomach virus sidelined O'Neal for half of a four-game skid.

Miami fans are absolutely giddy. Clad in red, they flock to the arena where Miami has lost just six games all season. They watch O'Neal, Dwyane Wade and the rest of the team wipe the court with all comers.

Standing on the horizon are Detroit, San Antonio and Phoenix.

Hello, doubt.

From the outset, Heat coach Stan Van Gundy has said that the road to a title goes through Detroit. Looking at the Pistons' starting five, and their championship rings, you understand what Van Gundy's talking about.

The Pistons won two of three games against Miami, and, with Rasheed Wallace and Tayshaun Prince, cause nightmarish matchups for any team. The Heat averaged 101.5 points per game this season, fourth best in the league, but failed to crack 80 against Detroit.

The Pistons are scary.

So are San Antonio and Phoenix. Miami split a pair of games against each, winning at home and losing on the road.

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The Suns' athleticism and marksmanship makes them the league's most exciting, exhilarating squad. Fast breaks, dunks and 3-pointers, amidst a fine impersonation of "Stockton & Malone" by Steve Nash and Amare Stoudemire.

San Antonio's style is closer to that of Detroit than Phoenix, but the Spurs and Suns were the only teams with three players averaging at least 20 points per game in the playoffs entering Tuesday.

Tim Duncan, Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili aren't Stoudemire, Shawn Marion and Joe Johnson, but the Spurs don't need to be high-flying. They won a championship playing beneath the rim two seasons ago, and have the ingredients to win another one.

The Spurs, and Suns, are scary.

Miami is a frightful proposition, too, for any team. Especially bad ones. Washington and New Jersey were a combined 0-7 against the Heat during the regular season, giving them little to believe in. But that's not the case for Miami's potential opponents ahead.

Phoenix and San Antonio would have the home-court advantage in the Finals, and Detroit doesn't think it matters. Each team has enjoyed success against Miami and believes it can do so again. Each has expectations as great as the Heat's, not the glad-to-be-here mentality of the Wizards and Nets.

So the Heat head to Washington the same way they entered the playoffs: deep and strong, clearly among the NBA's top four teams.

We haven't learned anything we didn't already know.

Check back in the next round.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

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Ottawa Citizen

May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
Final Edition

**SECTION:** ARTS; Pg. E8

**LENGTH:** 492 words

**HEADLINE:** Crooner returns to Vegas after show close to home: Toronto's Matt Dusk gained fame as singer on reality series

**BYLINE:** Tony Lofaro, The Ottawa Citizen

**BODY:**

Canadian crooner Matt Dusk is back in Las Vegas at the Golden Nugget Hotel next week where he gained fame as a featured lounge singer in the TV reality series The Casino.

It will be a happy return for the 26-year-old Toronto singer, even though sometimes he did come across as petty and stubborn on the television series when he butted heads with hotel management. The series aired last year and ran for only one season.

"I left on good terms and in fact, I'm friends with the two owners who have since sold the hotel," said Dusk in a recent interview. He plays Le Theatre du Casino du Lac-Leamy on Saturday.

"At the Vegas run we're putting together new material for our album and the best way to get a feel for the music is to perform in front of a live audience and gauge their reaction."

He said he expects to be recording again within the next few months, doing some original tunes and of course, old standards from the great American songbook. He said he's even looking to record a swing version of As Time Goes By, the much-loved song from Casablanca.

"This next record is going to be back to what my live show is really about. Swing will definitely be a big part of it, that's what I grew up doing.

"There is a big market for swing, especially with the success of Michael Buble. In our genre there are only about four or five singers and if you look at other genres like adult-contemporary, there's hundreds of artists out there."

Dusk gained notice last year for his CD Two Shots and was praised for his stirring version of the title song written by Bono for Frank Sinatra. Sinatra died before he could record it.

Dusk has played at jazz festivals, including the one in Ottawa last year, and he's won over some jazz fans who appreciate his faithfulness to singing some of the beloved standards.

"The one thing about this type of music is that it's not territory specific, it crosses every single market because the Japanese, the Australians and Europeans all love it.

"The whole point of the genre of music we're in, is that we have to push forward the genre, but at the same time keep one foot in the past but also one foot in the future."

He said it may be possible for today's songwriters to pen such classics as The Way You Look Tonight or New York, New York, but finding great songs is often the challenge.

"Some songs come to you in two minutes, others may take two years. On my last record, the song Five (a heart-wrenching song of hopelessness) was written in less than two hours and many feel it's the best song on the record."

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Dusk has a smooth, slick voice, and an easy-going patter on stage that has led to obvious comparisons to Sinatra. While the comparison is flattering to Dusk, he said he's not a copycat singer.

"I never try and imitate the guy. I come from the same school of training, but if you try and copy him you're going to fail."

Matt Dusk performs Saturday at Le Theatre du Casino du Lac-Leamy at 8 p.m. Tickets & times, 1-800-361-4595.

**GRAPHIC:**

Colour Photo: Kier Gilmour, The Ottawa Citizen; Matt Dusk plays Le Theatre du Casino du Lac-Leamy this Saturday, then he heads off to Vegas.

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Copyright 2005 The Palm Beach Newspapers, Inc.  
Palm Beach Post (Florida)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** NEIGHBORHOOD POST; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 444 words

**HEADLINE:** GROVES ADULT ARCADE THE FIRST TO OPEN IN WEST COMMUNITIES

**BYLINE:** By ANGIE FRANCALANCIA Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

**DATELINE:** LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

**BODY:**

Except for the neon lights from the blinking machines, it's dark and cool inside Slots of Fun.

But the sign on the front door makes it clear this isn't your teenager's video arcade. "Must be 21 to enter," the sign reads.

Slots of Fun is the latest adult arcade to open in Palm Beach County, and the first to arrive in the western communities. It's tucked into the small strip shopping center at Southern Boulevard and D Road.

In an area of the county dominated by schools and youth sports fields, Slots of Fun is a distinct nod toward the relatively small senior population in the western communities.

While not exclusively marketed toward seniors, the arcades tend to draw retirees as their primary client base and often are established near retirement communities.

"I know the senior citizens do go there because the seniors who live around my place, they think it's the greatest thing since ice cream," said Royal Palm Beach Councilman Matty Mattioli.

The machines resemble Las Vegas slot machines, and there's a comfy chair in front of every game and nonalcoholic drinks and food for the asking.

Just feed in a dollar, and watch the patterns whirl.

But that's where the similarities end. These games are more like arcade games aimed at the sandbox set. Instead of winning cash, players earn points.

At Slots of Fun, prizes are in the form of gift coupons, such as a \$10 Publix or Wal-Mart certificate.

Slots of Fun's owner includes coupons worth 100 points - the equivalent of a dollar - in his advertising. He wouldn't comment for the story.

On a recent weekday morning, about 10 people sat in front of the machines, punching the buttons. One woman spun a colored wheel for a \$5 credit for playing. At lunchtime, paper plates with turkey subs and chips were passed around. Last Friday, an Elvis imitator entertained the customers.

While many people love the arcades, they're not without their detractors. Some towns across the state have blocked the arcades from opening, saying they're too much like Vegas-style gambling machines.

The Greenacres City Council recently questioned the legality of the arcades when one was proposed for the city. The council later approved it when it was told by the city's attorney that they could not legally block it.

Patrons love the arcades.

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"I go there. I think it's great," said Helen Benvenuto, who is president of the Young at Heart Club in Royal Palm Beach. "You play for pennies. If you're there over lunchtime, they give you lunch. If you're there for dinner, they give you dinner - burgers, pasta or chicken. They've had antipasto salad," she said.

"I go there and I relax. What do I lose, \$5. Big deal!"

- angie\_francalancia@pbpost.com

**NOTES:** Royal Palm Beach / Loxahatchee

**LOAD-DATE:** May 14, 2005



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Philadelphia Daily News

May 11, 2005 Wednesday 4STAR EDITION

**SECTION:** NATIONAL; Pg. 26

**LENGTH:** 198 words

**HEADLINE:** Did they put the touch on club owner?

**DATELINE:** SAN DIEGO

**BODY:**

Two Democratic city councilmen went on trial yesterday on federal charges that they took money in exchange for trying to ease restrictions on touching dancers at strip clubs.

Councilmen Michael Zucchet and Ralph Inzunza, both 35, have pleaded not guilty to participating in an alleged scheme to repeal San Diego's "no-touch" law in exchange for tens of thousands of dollars from a Vegas strip club owner.

Federal prosecutor Paul Cook said much of the evidence at the trial will be "R rated." He said thousands of conversations were taped during the probe.

Michael Pancer, a lawyer for Inzunza, said the councilman did not believe he was doing anything wrong. "They are lobbied all the time. It is part of our free system of elections in this country," Pancer said.

Zucchet's attorney, Jerry Coughlan, said, "It was an evil conspiracy. Mr. Zucchet was never part of it."

Zucchet is San Diego's deputy mayor, set to become the interim leader of the nation's seventh-largest city when Dick Murphy leaves office July 15. The Republican mayor resigned last month after a disputed November election and deepening federal investigations of the city pension fund.

Associated Press

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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Copyright 2005 Riverfront Times LLC  
 Riverfront Times (St. Louis, Missouri)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** Calendar/Highlights**LENGTH:** 1134 words

**HEADLINE:** This Week's Day-by-Day Picks  
 Week of May 11, 2005

**BYLINE:** By Paul Friswold and Alison Sieloff**BODY:**

Wednesday, May 11

Like being in the mood for chocolate, sometimes you just have a hankering for some comforting art. Gail Soliwoda Cassilly's sculptures now displayed in the exhibit Figurative Sculpture at the Xen Gallery (401 North Euclid Avenue; 314-454-9561 or [www.xengallery.com](http://www.xengallery.com)) really hit the spot — like a chunk of chocolate the size of your head. Cassilly's First Time in Vegas depicts a woman who is pleasantly plump (she's probably been eating chocolate) and whose toes hang over the edges of her sandals. Some would say she's not perfect, but to us she's real — and she's brave enough to be in a swimsuit, albeit a modest one, in front of everyone. Fill your eye-candy quota for the week and go see this Vegas virgin, along with Cassilly's other pieces and Deborah Douglas' Recent Paintings, for free any time from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. before Friday, May 13, when both exhibits close.

Thursday, May 12

Much like Andrew W.K., when it's time to party, Mr. Night parties hard. Hard to the point of nosebleeds and violent blackouts, if necessary. Mr. Night shall attempt to rein in his most ferocious party tendencies at Midwest Mayhem, despite the inflammatory name. The KDHX (88.1 FM)-sponsored party has all the makings of a truly memorable bash (palm readers, poets, caricature artists), but since it takes place at the City Museum (701 North 15th Street; 314-231-2489 or [www.kdhx.org/party](http://www.kdhx.org/party)), it would behoove everyone to keep their wits about them. One wrong step at the City Museum, and you're rocketing down a four-story-high slide. Besides, with live music from the Fab Foehners, Rough Shop, Bob Reuter and Dubtronix (among others), you'll want to be able to appreciate the wonder of it all. Tickets for Midwest Mayhem are \$10 to \$15, and the shindig digs from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Wednesday, May 13

Truly, life is just one big scavenger hunt — without any real prizes. We always run around and eventually find the random stuff we're looking for, but all for nothing. Sure, you could say that "true love" or "happiness" or some other vague ideals are prizes, but the kind of rewards we're wanting are of the more tangible variety. And the Saint Louis County Parks' event planners seem to be on our level. This weekend, they offer a couple of BYO-flashlight Scavenger Hunts at Laumeier Sculpture Park (12580 Rott Road, Sunset Hills) — with real prizes! Of course, the Night & Day team is super-stoked about the adult hunt Saturday, May 14 (\$15), and its wine-and-cheese reward. Now that's what we're talking about!

But the all-ages Friday-the-Thirteenth scavenge (\$7) should be excellent, too (don't worry, its prizes are more kid-appropriate). And while you and your child are attempting to complete your list, make mental notes for Saturday night's event and remember: You have to work if you're gonna win. Both hunts run from 7 to 10 p.m.; pre-register by calling 636-391-3474 (required).

Saturday, May 14

Shameful admission time: Mr. Night recorded the final episode of Dawson's Creek — but on audio tape only. He's not a total moron, see; he just wanted to preserve that horribly verbose dialogue for his files. Now, he has a chance to perhaps

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re-enact Jen's deathbed scene with James Van Der Beek (Dawson) when the VDB comes to town for the Hollywood All Stars Softball Game at GMC Stadium (Sauget Industrial Park and Goose Lake roads, off I-255 in Sauget, Illinois; 618-337-3000 or [www.gatewaygrizzlies.com](http://www.gatewaygrizzlies.com)), home of the Gateway Grizzlies. This fundraising game pits celebs such as Meat Loaf, Norm MacDonald and the VDB against former Cardinals like Andy Van Slyke and Jack Clark. Can Van Der Beek hold on to a Van Slyke line drive the same way Dawson held on to his virginity all those seasons? Probably not, but who cares? It's a fundraiser for the St. Louis Children's Hospital (Dawson always did the right thing, didn't he?). Tickets for the 7 p.m. game are \$10.

Sunday, May 15

So maybe you're still on the morning-side of 25, but for those of you riding that twenties sun down to the big three-oh (or who are, sniff, even older), think back to how you spent your 25th birthday. Maybe you stayed up all night, drinking and dancing until dawn. Wow, that was fun. Wow, that was a lo-o-ong time ago. Well, it's time to get out of the house and relive that birthday all weekend at the Oz Nightclub's 25th Anniversary Festivities (300 Monsanto Avenue, Sauget, Illinois; 618-274-1464 or [www.oznightclub.com](http://www.oznightclub.com)). Where else would you go for an all-weekend debauch?

On Friday, May 13, party with DJ Reach (from Last Call with Carson Daly), DJ Charlie Chan and DJ Gary Mac, and enjoy '80s drink prices (\$2.50 per). Saturday, May 14, the Mac returns with DJ AM, DJ Reece and DJ Bill Pile; while they're spinning, you can try to win \$25,000 at the craps table — some birthday present! And tonight is the grand anniversary finale: Each of the Oz's three rooms features music from all the decades the Oz has been in operation. In other words, no matter how old (or young) you are, these tunes should bring back — and help make — some memories. Thanks, Oz! We needed that! The club opens at 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and at 10 p.m. on Sunday (\$5 cover all weekend) — see you there!

Monday, May 16

For some performers, fame is fleeting. Beautiful Jim Key was beloved by the crowds at the 1904 World's Fair. People thrilled at his math skills, his ability to sort mail and his citation of Bible passages. But now, nobody lists Jim as one of the great performers of the last century. Is it because Beautiful Jim Key was a horse? Mim Rivas examines the life and times of this equine wonder in *Beautiful Jim Key: The Lost History of a Horse and a Man Who Changed the World*. Rivas reads from and discusses this amazing human-animal relationship at 7 p.m. at St. Louis County Library Headquarters (1640 South Lindbergh Boulevard, Ladue; 314-367-6731 or [www.left-bank.com](http://www.left-bank.com)) as the guest of Left Bank Books. Admission is free.

Tuesday, May 17

Ah, *The Producers*. Mel Brooks' smash stage production has taken the world by storm, and to that we say, "Good for you, Mel." The diminutive comic genius deserves all the plaudits he's earned, and then some. Mel's musical comedy about a meek accountant and a cunning theatrical producer teaming up to defraud investors by staging the worst musical of all time (a tribute, in song and dance, to the Third Reich) was uproariously funny as a film (starring young Gene Wilder and the irrepressible Zero Mostel), so it's rewarding to see it conquer Broadway and the world with equal parts music and chutzpah. The touring production of the entertainment juggernaut returns to the Fox Theatre (527 North Grand Boulevard; 314-534-1111) at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 to \$80, and the show runs through May 22.

LOAD-DATE: May 12, 2005

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Copyright 2005 The San Diego Union-Tribune  
The San Diego Union-Tribune

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. D-1

**LENGTH:** 1349 words

**HEADLINE:** Ultimate gut-check: a putt for \$3 million;  
It just might happen at Big Stakes Match Play

**BYLINE:** Tod Leonard, STAFF WRITER

**BODY:**

In the PGA Tour's Wachovia Championship last Sunday, three of the top golfers in the world got into a playoff for the \$1 million first prize, and they staggered around like Chihuahuas with too-tight collars.

Vijay Singh eventually won, but only after Jim Furyk dipped his ball into a creek and Sergio Garcia putted with hands of granite. The pressure was intense.

Now, imagine the next-door neighbor playing under the same conditions.

Imagine, too, that the financial stakes are higher than they've ever been on the PGA Tour, and that your buddy has a 6-foot putt on the last hole to win \$3 million.

Who cares if he could bring the putter back to square? Could he breathe?

Sitting in a bar in Hawaii after a golf round almost a decade ago, former Atlanta Falcons quarterback Steve Bartkowski imagined such a scenario: How would a merely mortal golfer handle playing for the purse of a lifetime?

Thanks to Bartkowski, we're about to find out.

Beginning today at the CasaBlanca Resort in Mesquite, Nev., 64 two-man teams that have anted up \$100,000 each will compete in the inaugural Big Stakes Match Play. Each day they will play one 18-hole, best-ball match. It will take five victories to get to the finale Monday, when the winning pair will split a check for \$3 million.

Tiger Woods has never played officially for such a prize. It's nearly triple what the world's No. 1 player has won in a PGA Tour event. And the bounty likely will go to a couple of Joes who once thought \$100 Nassaus were a big deal.

"In this age of reality television, I like to think of this as a cross between 'Survivor' and 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?'" said Bartkowski, who co-founded the tournament with Jim Thomas after several years of planning. "There are thousands of guys around the country who can flat-out golf the ball, but for a lot of reasons they never made it to the PGA Tour. They have a chance here to show their stuff.

"There has never been a stage for them like this one."

Predictably, the go-for-broke nature of the event and its primary rule — no one who has played on a major tour in the last three years can enter — has attracted a cast of celebrities, hustlers, has-beens and wannabes compelling enough to fill 10 "Tin Cups."

There are the ex-pro athletes who've made a career of celebrity golf: Rick Rhoden, Billy Joe Tolliver, Andy Van Slyke, Dan Quinn and Pierre Larouche.

There are players who have tasted the big time: Brian Tennyson, who played four years on the PGA Tour and twice finished second; John Wilson, a PGA and Nationwide tour journeyman from Indian Wells; and Brian Kontak, a multiple winner on the Canadian Tour who raised a ruckus in 2003 when he threatened (but didn't follow through on) entering U.S. Women's Open qualifying after Annika Sorenstam played on the PGA Tour.

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The San Diego Union-Tribune May 11, 2005 Wednesday

There are sons of the greats: Robert Floyd, son of Raymond, who will play with Quinn; and Scott and John Miller, sons of Johnny. (John Miller Jr., 34, is a golf instructor in Orem, Utah, and the father of eight.)

Most of the guys in the field, however, are players few outside of golf's cocoon have heard of. They are teaching pros, businessmen, minitour players and caddies. One says he's a farmer. Fifty of them are 40 or older.

The thread that ties them together is that they are good enough for someone to have wagered \$50,000 on each of their heads.

"These guys are all proud of their golf games," said Bartkowski, who has been a regular on the celebrity golf circuit since retiring from the NFL in 1986, but isn't competing in Big Stakes. "They are supremely confident. There's got to be a little bit of a swagger there. I don't think there's a guy entered who doesn't think he could win."

Interestingly, few of the golfers are actually paying their own way. Some have wealthy individuals who are putting up all of the cash, but most have had syndicates put together for them, with numerous members of each "team" contributing several thousand dollars toward the entry fee.

In Muskogee, Okla., a group of 21 fun-loving men and women from the country club there decided to back their pro, Jimbo Fuller. Some put in \$10,000. They found a caddie from Las Vegas, Kenneth Jarner, to play with him, and in homage to the "Caddyshack" duo of Ty Webb and Danny Noonan, they've dubbed themselves Bushwood LLC. Nine of them are traveling to Mesquite with Tommy Bahama shirts sporting an embroidered Bushwood logo.

"We're going to take this to the fullest humor and enjoy it," said syndicate chief Taylor Foster, a Muskogee funeral home owner. "A lot of us go down to Vegas quite a few times each year, and we'd probably lose this much gambling anyway."

Two weeks ago, Bushwood's plans hit a snag when Jimbo came up lame with a bad shoulder, but Fuller recommended a Florida pro and former Nike Tour player, Bobby Collins, and after flying him to Oklahoma for an on-course interview, the Bushwood folks were sold on him.

"We never thought about backing out," Foster said. "We put our money in a long time ago and we're willing to gamble."

For any player in the field who still has pro golf aspirations, a Big Stakes victory would be huge on myriad levels. It would create a large supply of cash for entry fees into the more prestigious tours, which battle-test golfers for the big leagues. It also could attract other potential backers.

"It could be a life-changing event," said John Mallinger.

Mallinger barely made the tournament's minimum-age limit of 25 and is the youngest player in the field. He is a former San Diego Junior Golf standout from Escondido High who played at Long Beach State and is currently on the Canadian Tour. His biggest pro wins are two Hooters Tour victories last summer, and his biggest check cashed is \$15,000 for a second-place finish in the 2004 Long Beach Open.

"It's tough to pass up an experience like this," said Mallinger, who is playing with fellow Long Beach alum Mike Miles. They are backed by a member of a Huntington Beach country club.

"It's not just the money, but seeing how you respond to the pressure like that."

Mallinger said he's especially fascinated by the format, which demands that both players contribute significantly if they are to win six times in match play over 18 holes.

"In some of these groups, if one player is looking for the better player to carry him, they're going to have a tough time," said Randy Haag, 46, a former San Diego State player who is one of Northern California's top amateurs. "It's not going to be one guy pulling the weight the whole way."

Haag, an investment banker and Olympic Club member, fancies his own partnership with Darryl Donovan, another top Bay Area amateur who qualified and made the cut in the 1992 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach. They say they are in it for the competition, and they have signed waivers claiming all of their winnings would go to their sponsor, the owner of a Nasdaq 100 company whom Haag would identify only as "Jack."

"If we won, we'd have an even better friend for life," Haag said, laughing.

Whatever the arrangement, it is a kick for Haag to imagine coming down to that last hole with a shot at \$3 million. For any golfer, how could it not be?

"It's what you dream about, to have some putt that's more meaningful than winning the club championship or something," Haag said. "It will be etched in stone the rest of your life if you win that."

**Big Stakes Match Play**

**When:** Today through Monday

**Where:** CasaBalanca Resort, Mesquite, Nev.

**TV:** The Golf Channel will tape a special to be aired May 30-31 from 10 a.m. to noon.

**Big Stakes Match Play**

**Format:** 64 two-man teams competing in 18-hole best-ball matches with no handicaps.

**Entry:** \$50,000 per player. Golfers must be 25 and cannot have competed on any major tour (PGA, Nationwide, European, etc.) in the last three years.

**Purse breakdown:** Winning team will accumulate \$3 million in six matches, including \$2,325,000 for victory in final. Losers in final earn \$675,000 total. Teams making it to round of 16 will at least get their \$100,000 entry fee back. Consolation-bracket winners get \$175,000.

**Web site:** [www.bigstakesgolf.com](http://www.bigstakesgolf.com)

**Tod Leonard:** (619) 293-1858; [tod.leonard@uniontrib.com](mailto:tod.leonard@uniontrib.com)

**GRAPHIC:** 1 PIC; 1 CHART; **CAPTIONS:** 1. Former NFL quarterback Steve Bartkowski is the architect of the 64-team Big Stakes Match Play event in Mesquite, Nev. 2. Big Stakes Match Play; **PHOTOBY:** 1. Brian Branch-Price / Associated Press

**LOAD-DATE:** May 13, 2005

# **INDEX 241**

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Copyright 2005 SF Weekly, LP  
SF Weekly (California)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

**SECTION:** Bestarts/Arts & Entertainment

**LENGTH:** 157 words

**HEADLINE:** Best Cover Band

**BODY:**

Enorchestra

[www.saucefaucet.com/tiger.html](http://www.saucefaucet.com/tiger.html)

You can have your Cheeseballs, your Super Diamond, your Wonder Bread 5. Who wants to hear a cover band that plays songs that other cover bands play? Who wants to see people dressed up in ill-fitting costumes and fake chest hair? Frankly, who wants to hear music that belongs at a Vegas wedding? Not the members of Enorchestra, that's for sure. Begun by Doug Hilsinger and Caroleen Beatty of local country-rock group Waycross, the act willfully re-creates Brian Eno's semiobscure 1974 album *Taking Tiger Mountain* (by Strategy). That's it: No feel-good hits, no outsized pumps, no ridiculous shtick. Only 10 tunes made even more epic and unusual than the original recordings — songs full of cryptic lyrics and serpentine guitar riffs with some kind of shamanistic power. These covers are so good that Eno himself, upon hearing the collection, remarked, "I like it very, very much!"

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

N/R 241

PC-00698

# **INDEX 242**

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Copyright 2005 Times Publishing Company  
St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday 0 South Pinellas Edition

**SECTION:** EDITORIAL; Pg. 12A

**LENGTH:** 1078 words

**HEADLINE:** Lawmakers should not be allowed to accept free trips

**SERIES:** YOUR LETTERS

**BODY:**

Re: Do travel rules cloak lobbyists' influence? May 8.

When lawmakers accept trips from anyone, it can only mean votes and accessibility are for sale. Period. Having a tax-exempt, charitable organization launder the money from special interests is still fraud against the voter.

If a trip is necessary to conduct official business of the U.S. government, then lawmakers should receive a government-issued coach-class ticket like any other employee of the government. The lawmaker would then receive the government's official daily allowance for hotel and meals.

If the trip is not official business, paid for by the government, then it is purely personal and should be paid for entirely by the lawmaker.

The lawmaker in no circumstances should be legally allowed to accept gifts, special-interest-paid travel or meals. Such handouts can only be considered bribes, payola or votes for sale - if not in fact, then in perception. Allowing such gifts under the rules clearly demonstrates why the term House ethics is a prime example of an oxymoron.

Shame, shame on each and every congressman or senator who has sold his soul and vote for a cheap vacation paid for by special interest groups. As a government employee for many years, I would have gone to jail for such antics.

E.M. Sallas, Safety Harbor

Responding to Bilirakis' behavior

Re: Bilirakis: You judge free trips to Vegas,

May 6.

So congressman Mike Bilirakis has asked the voters to be the judge regarding his free trips to Las Vegas, paid for by special-interest lobbyists. Well, I as a voter in Florida's 9th Congressional District plan on telling the congressman exactly how I feel: I will vote against his son, Gus Bilirakis, who is running for his father's seat.

Gus Bilirakis, using his father's donor list, has already raised more than \$300,000. This sure looks like a case of "like father, like son" to me.

I urge my fellow voters in Florida's 9th Congressional District to send a clear message next year, that we are tired of this sort of behavior from our elected officials. Let's get a fresh face to represent us in the 9th!

Richard Feigel, Clearwater

Somebody will be paying

Re: Bilirakis: You judge free trips to Vegas.

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PC-00699

St. Petersburg Times (Florida) May 11, 2005 Wednesday 0 South Pinellas E

In answer to the statement by Rep. Mike Bilirakis about how his constituents should judge his free trips to Las Vegas, I have this to say:

There is no such thing as a free lunch, and there is no such thing as a free trip. Bilirakis might not be paying, but somewhere down the line someone will foot the bill. Guess who that will be?

Mike Burnash, Madeira Beach

Keeping big oil happy

Re: Blaming the president won't solve our energy problems, letter, May 4.

George W. Bush and Dick Cheney put together an energy task force within days of assuming office in Term 1. Out of this task force came what? We do not know because its members met in secret and have refused to say what if anything was done to shape our energy policies of today.

Big oil companies have seen a large rise in profits over the past year while Congress sits by watching this happening and refusing to push for answers from Bush's energy task force.

I guess they do not want to slap the hand that feeds them: "big oil."

Bobby McGill, Valrico

Waste-fuel driving

High gas prices are certainly a hot topic these days. I hear it from friends and co-workers. I see it on TV, in the news pages, in the editorials, and in the letters.

Where I don't see it is on the roads, reflected in the way people drive: Jack-rabbit starts, unnecessary speed, tail-gating and lane-weaving are as common as ever. And those who you think would be most sensitive to gas prices - those with the least fuel-efficient vehicles - continue to lead the way in wasteful driving techniques. Don't you realize that the fuel you are using to race to the red light is nothing but a waste of your own money?

I know gas prices are high; I feel it every time I fill up. But they obviously are not high enough if the average driver will only complain about it but not change the way he or she drives.

William Carroll, Gulfport

Transportation alternatives

What can we do to conserve oil and reduce gas consumption, which will help our environment and have the potential to strengthen our economy? There are many things we can and should do. But are we willing to make a few changes in our habits?

Think about it. We are blessed with sunshine almost every day. Our landscape is pretty much flat and the temperature is ideal for outdoor activity nine months out of the year.

So what are our options? Can we walk? Can we ride our bike? Can we carpool? Can we use the PSTA?

My favorite option is to ride my bike. I must admit, I don't feel appreciated by most automobile drivers for this effort. Maybe we all should check our attitude and consider the benefits. What do you do to conserve oil?

Tiffany Mercer, St. Petersburg

Good folks at the gas station

Re: A fillup, a hug and a goodbye to MaN'NY's, May 7.

I'd like to thank you for putting a story like this in the Times. It's refreshing to have a story about some nice folks who are friends in our neighborhood. My wife and I will miss talking about the latest news or weather and being barked at by Tarzan, the dog.

St. Petersburg Times (Florida) May 11, 2005 Wednesday 0 South Pinellas E

I grew up in a small Midwestern town where everybody knew your name and visited the local market, drugstore and gas station. Those folks were your friends. MaNNY's reminded me of that bit of Americana. And that is why I will miss them. They were good neighbors.

One other thing we will miss is their low gas prices!

Jon Whipple, St. Petersburg

#### Joys of the jacaranda

Thank you for Purple Days, Lauren Bayne Anderson's May 3 article on the jacaranda (and for the photography as well). As an old guy, I especially appreciated the line (which I took as a metaphor extolling the joy of aging) by Bob Albanese: "The older the tree, the better the bloom."

I have been enamored of this tree since reading the now somewhat locally famous line from Wilbur Landrey: "all is well in the world, the jacaranda are in bloom in St. Petersburg." Landrey, who was the St. Petersburg Times' international columnist, took time from reporting war and strife to "smell the roses" for us - or, rather, appreciate the jacaranda.

I would like to propose a photo contest to search out the most beautiful jacaranda in all of Pinellas County (or the bay area).

Norm Bungard, St. Petersburg

LOAD-DATE: May 11, 2005



# **INDEX 243**

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Copyright 2005 Sun Media Corporation  
The Toronto Sun

May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Baseball; Pg. S4

**LENGTH:** 603 words

**HEADLINE:** 'IF BOXERS GET HIT THERE, THEY GO DOWN'

**BYLINE:** BY BOB ELLIOTT

**BODY:**

THE SCARIEST thing we've ever seen at a ball park happened at Arlington Stadium in Arlington, Tex.

Cecilio Guante of the Texas Rangers hit Tony Fernandez of the Blue Jays on the right cheekbone with a pitch on April 7, 1989. Down went Fernandez, lying in the Texas dirt for what seemed like an hour but was only 25 minutes.

Watching TV on Sunday as Jays catcher Gregg Zaun laid motionless after breaking up a potential ninth-inning double play would be a close second.

Chicago White Sox second baseman Pedro Lopez's knee clipped Zaun at the base of his right jaw, knocking Zaun out and leaving him with head trauma and a concussion.

"Last thing I remember was the first pitch to John McDonald," Zaun told reporters in the clubhouse yesterday. McDonald bounced the second pitch for what could have been a game-ending double play if not for Zaun's hard slide.

"I remember people asking me questions when I was strapped to the stretcher," Zaun said. "I've been hit harder at the plate, but he caught me in the right spot. If boxers get hit there they go down."

Zaun has seen photos and parts of the replay, both of the collision and aftermath, where he is lying face-down in the dirt cutout behind second.

What he noticed in the video was the expressions on the faces of his teammates, "I could see how scared they were ... the fear in their faces."

Zaun is in his 10th season in the majors, but this is only his second as an everyday catcher. He was with the Kansas City Royals in 2001 and was supposed to catch 100 games before injuring his left calf at the end of spring training. So this is his first stab at everyday employment.

Zaun will earn \$950,000 US this season, and if he appears in 70 games his \$1,000,000 option for 2006 will be guaranteed.

"It's sad missing time, but I did get a sense that people depend on you," Zaun said. "I've been a No. 2 my whole career. To know people expect you in the lineup, expect you to do well and hear for someone say: 'This is a real loss for the team' ... that has never happened before.

"As a backup catcher you are an afterthought."

Zaun played in 28 of the Jays' first 32 games, hitting .275 in the No. 7 and 8 spots most of the time. When he was injured he led the Jays in RBIs with 20.

In The Sun on Friday, Mike Rutsey's story about Zaun appeared under the headline "Zaun the one Jays can't afford to lose."

Now, the Jays will try to replace Zaun with Ken Huckaby and recently recalled Andy Dominique. Huckaby delivered

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a key hit last night for the second game in succession.

Zaun's wife Jamie had left the game on Sunday before the collision and the Jays reached her by phone to tell her of the injury.

"My father and grandma were watching from a sports book in Vegas," Zaun said. "My father and grandma — that's Rick Dempsey's mother — were okay. They've seen collisions, but they were worried about telling my mother."

Zaun has a reputation as a hard-nosed player, marching to the beat of his own tuba. Like twice in the 1996 season, when Zaun went out to start a game with the Baltimore Orioles without his mask.

"I've had a few headaches, although none today," Zaun said. "I feel like I'm in a bit of a fog."

Roy Halladay, Frank Catalanotto, Frank Menechino, Reed Johnson and McDonald visited him at Mt. Sinai on Monday.

"I was cantankerous and (Halladay) said: 'He's back to his old self,' " Zaun said.

It's similar baseball humour to when Tom Henke visited Fernandez the day after that accident in Texas in 1989.

Henke took one look at Fernandez and said: "Tony, you're are a mess. You look like George Bell."

Said Fernandez through a wired jaw: "Please stop ... it hurts when I laugh."

**GRAPHIC:** photo by Fred Thornhill GREGG ZAUN talks about his injury with reporters yesterday.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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Copyright 2005 Sun Media Corporation  
The Toronto Sun

May 11, 2005 Wednesday  
FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. S14

**LENGTH:** 1932 words

**HEADLINE:** FANATICS;  
IS YOUR FIRST LOVE WATCHING SOCCER WHILE HAVING A BEER WITH FRIENDS? JOIN THE CLUB

**BYLINE:** BY MIKE ZEISBERGER, TORONTO SUN

**BODY:**

It is a drizzly spring afternoon and disaster has struck the Glasgow Celtic Supporters Club in Scarborough.

The taps runneth dry. The club's inventory of Guinness has disappeared. Sound the alarm.

Hell hath no fury like thirsty soccer fans. Behind these doors guzzling a pint and watching the big game is an undeniable rite of passage. To be here without their favourite brew would be blasphemous. This dilemma calls for quick thinking. Sure enough, one phone call and the problem is solved.

"The Rangers supporters club sent some Guinness over to help us out," the bartender said.

Did we hear right? Rangers supporters helping their Celtic brethren? These are two of the most bitter rivals in all of sport, a disdain fanned by the historical religious differences between the Protestant-backed Rangers and Catholic-supported Celtic.

"If this were Scotland, accepting (beer) from a Rangers club would be unacceptable," Ron McGarry, the president of the Glasgow Celtic Supporters Club of Toronto, said. "But here we need each other. Without the rivalry we would have nothing. We work together. They send cheques to support our charities and we do the same."

Yes, the two clubs share common goals — to a point.

"Everybody here knows their people and they know us," Arnold McMillan, vice-president of the Glasgow Rangers of Canada, Toronto Branch, said. "For the most part, we're all friends."

Except ...

"Except for that one day when Rangers and Celtic meet. On that day we hate each other."

Such a day occurred April 24. Final score: Celtic 2, Rangers 1.

"Once the whistle goes for that game, — them!" McGarry said, echoing the sentiments of the majority of fans from both sides.

—

The Rangers-Celtic rivalry underscores the passion for soccer that brews in southern Ontario.

Within minutes of Greece's Cinderella championship at Euro 2004, the Danforth was clogged by a sea of euphoric flag-waving Greeks. Brazil captured the 2002 World Cup and College St. became the stage for green-and-yellow clad fans to revel. And whenever Italy wins a big game during an international competition, drivers are advised to avoid the intersection of Dufferin St. and St. Clair Ave.

Such allegiances tick off many naysayers who claim those living within Canada's borders should funnel their emotions behind Canadian teams. They may have a point, but it will take more than criticism to keep these fans from pouring out

The Toronto Sun May 11, 2005 Wednesday

their enthusiasm.

From Woodbridge to Oshawa they have established support clubs in honour of their beloved sides. Celtic, Rangers, Liverpool, Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspurs, AC Milan, Juventus and Roma are among the squads with southern Ontario-based organizations backing them.

Some, like Celtic, Rangers and AC Milan, run their own establishments where supporters can congregate. The Man U Supporters Club of Canada has a PR man. Most of the clubs have established websites or are in the process of developing them.

Given all this underlying fanaticism, it's no surprise that the available televised soccer coverage from around the world has exploded in this market.

While such programming, aside from the odd highlight show, once was the specialty of the various ethnic stations, there is no shortage of it now. Sportsnet has weekly games from England and holds the Canadian rights to the 2006 World Cup; The Score provides an informative daily world report; Fox Sports World Canada shows games from around the globe; and TSN is enjoying lucrative ratings for its Champions League coverage. TSN reports an increase of 14,000 viewers per Champions League game, including 22,000 per playoff match, from a year ago.

So what's the deal with all this soccer-mania?

While visiting many of the clubs over the course of a week, we discovered one common thread: A passion for the teams — and the sport — they love.

Do we need to check our flares at the door? Robert Iaruschi, realizing the question is nothing more than a good-natured joke, is not offended by the inference. But he is not laughing, either.

We have come to a quaint establishment in Woodbridge to join rabid Italian fans watch AC Milan meet Dutch side PSV Eindhoven in a semi-final game of the European Champions League.

AC Milan reached this stage after defeating city rival Inter Milan in a quarter-final marred by an ugly incident in which flares were hurled on to the pitch from the stands. One struck the AC Milan goaltender, who narrowly avoided becoming a toasted marshmallow in cleats.

Patrons here at the 90 Minuto Sports Bar are quick to express their disgust at the behaviour.

"How the (bleep) do they get those flares in the stands in the first place?" Iaruschi, wearing an irritated look, asked.

"Back in October I was in Italy to see an Inter-Roma game at the Olympic Stadium. The fans were throwing flares at each other. Disgusting. We certainly don't condone that here."

Iaruschi's mood lightened as we entered the bar. One step through the door and he was greeted by a swarm of well-wishers who acknowledged the Canadian Soccer Hall of Fame member.

"There are dozens of these places now where Italians go to watch their respective teams," said Iaruschi, who played with soccer greats such as Franz Beckenbauer, Pele and Eusebio and won four North American Soccer League championships — three with the New York Cosmos, the other with the 1976 Toronto Metros Croatia. "There are places like the AC Ranch at Dufferin and St. Clair but, with so many Italians having moved to places like Woodbridge, the fan base is fragmented between different venues."

While AC Milan might be on the big TV screen at the front of the room, this is the same venue where the Juventus supporters club holds its meetings. Pino Albi, manager of the 90 Minuto Sports Bar, noted that 100 Juventus and Milan supporters from the Toronto area dropped \$2,000 each to attend a game between the teams in Italy last weekend.

"When Milan and Juventus meet, we'll be like cats and dogs," Filippo Gravina, a committee member with the AC Milan supporters club of Toronto, said. "But it's just talk. We're not hooligans."

The game ends. AC Milan has defeated PSV 2-0 and there are smiles all around. Joe Daloisio, president of the Milan supporters club, predicts the club's headquarters, near Sheppard Ave. and Weston Rd., will be packed to the rafters cheering on their heroes for the Champions League final on May 25.

In the ensuing glee, Iaruschi asks what is next on the agenda. Told that a visit with Liverpool supporters is on tap for the following day, he laughs.

"You'll see those English guys singing in front of the screen," Iaruschi said. "I love those guys."

---

It is rush hour in Toronto and the corner of Yonge St. and St. Clair Ave. has been transformed into a sea of red.

Liverpool supporters, proudly wearing their team's crimson jerseys, are pouring on to the streets after watching their team play Chelsea to a 0-0 draw in the opening leg of a Champions League semi-final.

Packed into Scallywags, the establishment that serves as the home base for the Toronto branch of the Liverpool Supporter's Club, it's surprising that any of these patrons have voices left after screaming at television screens for much of the afternoon.

They sing. They clap. They chant. And when the satellite signal momentarily fizzles, one leather-lunged fan screams, "Free pints for everyone!"

Graham Wignall, vice-president of the Toronto branch of the Liverpool supporters club, estimates his organization has about 200 members. There are similar branches in Vancouver, Calgary and Ottawa.

"Along with our (line of clothing products), former Liverpool players like Ian St. John and Ron Yeats have come over and met our fans," Wignall said of the benefits of being a member.

Scallywags also serves as the home for Spurs Canada, the supporters club of Tottenham Hotspurs.

Formed in 1999, Spurs Canada, a relatively new organization, has about 70 members across Canada.

"The Liverpool Supporter's Club are good blokes," Spurs Canada's Duncan Rowe said.

At least until the next Liverpool-Spurs game.

---

Most P.R. people dress in suits for their job. David Coleman sports a Manchester United jersey. And he's proud of it.

As an official representative of the Manchester United Supporters Club of Canada, he wears his emotions on his sleeve. During any televised Man U game at the Main Event, the organization's headquarters in the Yonge-Eglinton area, he often can be heard bellowing at the screen.

"Being a Man U supporter is a way of life," Coleman said, adding the famous team is considered to be the most valuable sporting franchise in the world.

The following for Man U is amazing, even in Canada.

The Man U Supporters Club of Canada features an estimated 6,000 members and includes chapters in places like Vancouver and Winnipeg. Hundreds are expected to clog the Main Event for the F.A. Cup final between Manchester United and Arsenal on May 21.

There are yearbooks, golf shirts, pins and membership cards, all sporting the Manchester United logo. But there is one fringe benefit to members that stands beyond the rest.

"We can guarantee members tickets to Man U games at Old Trafford," Coleman said. "They are sold out every game. Unless you are a member, you can't get tickets."

Good selling point.

---

Manchester United's storied past is not impressing Ron McGarry of the Celtic supporters club.

Sitting in his office in the Midland Ave.-Hwy. 401 area, a wry grin creeps over his face when told of a reporter's visit to the United supporters club.

"The telephone booth at Lawrence Ave. and Victoria Park is the headquarters of the Man U supporters club ... that is,

if all three of them show up," McGarry said with a laugh.

McGarry has reason to chuckle.

Of the various supporters clubs sprinkled throughout the GTA, those linked with Celtic and Rangers have the most ideal setup.

Located just three kilometres apart, the two organizations have their own clubhouses, complete with televisions, satellite dishes and bars.

On this day, Celtic is en route to dropping a 3-1 decision to Hibernia. The joint is packed with patrons wearing green-and-white striped jerseys.

A woman's voice can be heard yelling "twit" whenever a Celtic player screws up.

Two framed plaques signify that the club owns shares in the publicly owned Celtic franchise. One certificate dangles above the women's restroom, the other over the liquor closet.

"Those are the two most important rooms in the place," one fan said with a mischievous grin.

Aside from the various autographed jerseys adorning the walls, the most impressive sight is a plaque of recognition from a local charity. Both the Celtic and Rangers clubs have raised thousands in support of worthy causes over the years.

Like their Celtic rivals, the Toronto branch of the Glasgow Rangers support club of Toronto was formed in the late 1960s. After bouncing back and forth between a variety of venues, it settled into impressive digs in the Ellesmere Rd.-Bellamy Rd. area.

"The beauty of this club, for many, is that it is like their rec room," Rangers club vice-president Arnold McMillan said. "They come to watch the games, see their buddies and attend other functions like dances, darts and billiards."

McMillan pointed to a group of youngsters sitting in a corner of the spiffy establishment.

"These kids are the future of the club," he said. "They are here for every game."

Many of the 350-plus members will be heading to Las Vegas the first week of June to attend a conference involving the various Rangers support clubs of North America. One week later, a similar get-together will be held in Vegas for Celtic backers.

The casinos had better stock up on Guinness.

**GRAPHIC:** photospread 3 photos by Fred Thornhill 1. David Coleman raises a pint in celebration at the Main Event Pub after a goal by Manchester United. 2. photo 3. Green-clad soccer fans John Reid, Stephen McDonald, Ronnie McGarry and Gerry McLaughlin cheer wildly at the Celtic club in Scarborough after their team got on the scoreboard in a Scottish league game with Hibernia. 4. Graphics

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005



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CNN.com

May 11, 2005 Wednesday 6:10 PM EST

**SECTION: LAW**

**LENGTH:** 727 words

**HEADLINE:** Lawyer: Vegas murder defendant traveled across Canadian border

**BYLINE:** By Chris O'Connell Court TV

**BODY:**

Greg Chao admitted to driving back across the Canadian border under cover of darkness to avoid authorities a day after the body of Donald Idiens was found in the stairwell of a casino, a witness told jurors Monday.

"[Chao] indicated he did not want to be detected coming back," said Peter LaPrarie, a Canadian lawyer who questioned Chao during an extradition hearing in British Columbia.

LaPrarie testified about several details that Chao, 31, revealed about his trip to Las Vegas in the first week of December 1997.

Among the incriminating details that LaPrarie said Chao told him under oath in Canada were that he was a professional gambler, that he had tried to conceal his identity while in the United States, and that he bought a duffel bag in the Imperial Palace Hotel but did not bring it back with him to Canada.

Chao also acknowledged meeting Idiens at the tables in the Mirage poker room, but denied borrowing \$1,000 from the man.

Chao is charged with robbery and murder with a deadly weapon in the brutal slaying of fellow Canadian and avid poker player Donald Idiens, 53, on the night of December 8, 1997.

Prosecutors say Chao went to Vegas on a desperate bid to win enough money to pay back Canadian loan sharks, to whom he owed tens of thousands of dollars. Chao borrowed \$1,000 from Idiens, lured him back to his hotel room to ask for more, then killed the land developer for his bankroll when he refused to lend any more money, prosecutors have said.

Idiens' battered and nearly naked body was found in a stairwell one floor below room 18136, where Chao was staying. Police also found Idiens' blood in the room.

A DNA analyst said Monday that a blood sample taken from a strip of carpet was identified as belonging to Idiens. The chance of the sample coming from someone else, a police DNA analyst told jurors, is 1 in 600 billion.

Chao's public defender, Timothy O'Brien, has said that his client merely lent Idiens his hotel room for a meeting with the person or persons who must have killed him. When Chao returned to his room, O'Brien claims, nothing was astray, save for some liquor bottles on a dresser.

If convicted on both counts, Chao faces life in prison without parole.

Judge Nancy Saitta allowed LaPrarie to testify only after she listened to the strenuous objections of Chao's lawyers, who argued that Chao's testimony was in a foreign country and at a separate hearing from his extradition hearing, which would make it inadmissible in the United States.

But Saitta agreed with prosecutors, who argued that Chao's testimony was part of the extradition hearing and that the defendant had been warned his testimony could be used against him in the U.S.

"Everybody told this guy it would come back to haunt him, and he took the risk," Deputy District Attorney David

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PC-00708

Schwartz told Saitta.

LaPrarie's testimony could complicate Chao's defense strategy because Chao was on parole in Canada for extortion charges at the time of the murder. O'Brien has argued outside the presence of the jury that Chao was using an alias in the U.S. and sneaking back into Canada to avoid being arrested for violating his parole.

On Friday several hotel employees testified about how Chao attempted to have his name removed from his hotel bill and tried to get into his room after checking out.

Saitta previously ruled that jurors could not hear the extortion conviction in Canada. Now Chao's defense faces the difficult question of whether to bring up the extortion conviction to explain his suspicious behavior, or to have Chao take the stand to explain everything.

Chao's admission about the duffel bag could prove particularly damaging to his defense.

"[Chao] indicated he did not have the duffel bag with him when he went back to Canada, and he indicated he went to Las Vegas with one suitcase," LaPrarie said of Chao's testimony.

Imperial Palace video surveillance cameras show Chao buying the bag before he checked out of his hotel room on December 9.

Although he was fully clothed when seen entering the Imperial Palace on December 8, Donald Idiens was found only in underwear and socks the next morning, and no murder weapon was ever located during the investigation.

Prosecutors allege Chao used the bag to carry out Idiens' clothes, shoes and the weapon and then discarded it before he drove back to Canada from Washington state.

Court TV Extra is streaming the trial live.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 20, 2005

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adweek.com

May 10, 2005

**SECTION:** NEWS; West

**LENGTH:** 432 words

**HEADLINE:** Atlantic City Resort Gets Vegas Treatment

**SOURCE:** Online

**BYLINE:** Randi Schmelzer

**BODY:**

**LOS ANGELES** The latest campaign for the Borgata Hotel, Casino & Spa by independent Schadler Kramer Group is breaking in June magazines, according to the agency.

Five ads promote the Atlantic City, N.J., resort via subtly provocative scenarios captioned with the tagline, "Wait, it gets better."

The effort "conveys a slightly more sophisticated, upscale [message] with a playful wink," said John Schadler, founder and managing partner of the Las Vegas-based shop. "The brand has always been about surprise, sexiness and fun," he explained. "This is basically leveraging the property's success to a new level."

The five, full-page scenes—lifestyle moments captured around the 2,002-room property's hotel, nightclub, restaurants, casino and swimming pool—target "a more specific demographic" than SKG's previous work for the client.

The desired audience is composed of "mid-40s, sophisticated urbanites, people who may have not viewed Atlantic City as an option until now," Schadler said. He added that the Southern European-reminiscent property, jointly owned by MGM Mirage and the Boyd Gaming Corp., is "entirely competitive with any of the big new hotels in Vegas."

In one campaign execution, photographed in the resort's nightclub, an attractive, jewel-draped woman fawns over a conservatively dressed middle-aged man; at the same time, an equally glamorous woman drapes her arm across his chest from behind.

In another execution, a fully dressed man holding a glass of white wine is shown immersed to his waist in the swimming pool, casually eyeing his sexy female companion. The woman, hair slicked back and makeup perfect, wades a few steps away in a slinky, sparkling cocktail dress.

All five ads feature the anticipation-tinged tagline as a caption.

The campaign also previews coming attractions, Schadler noted. By early 2006, the 2-year-old Borgata is expected to unveil additional guest rooms and fine-dining restaurants, a poker facility and high-end retail shops, he said.

This print component is the first phase of the resort's new marketing effort, Schadler said, and would run in national magazines including *Vanity Fair*, *Food & Wine*, *Maxim* and *Cigar Aficionado*. Additional amenity-focused ads will appear in regional publications serving the Borgata's core markets of New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

SKG would not reveal its client's current ad budget, but said it was in "the low seven figures." The Borgata spent \$3 million on advertising last year and \$5 million in 2003, per Nielsen Monitor-Plus.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 18, 2005

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PC-00710

# **INDEX 247**

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Copyright 2005 Chicago Tribune Company  
Chicago Tribune

May 10, 2005 Tuesday  
RedEye Edition

**SECTION:** Pg. 31

**LENGTH:** 398 words

**HEADLINE:** Reality shows we'd like to see

**BYLINE:** PATRICK OLSEN, REDEYE.

**BODY:**

With reports that CBS is developing a new "Punk'd"-style show starring Jon Lovitz, we got to thinking about other reality shows that we wouldn't mind seeing. After all, those competition shows get a bit stale at times, and so do reruns of "The Simple Life: Interns." Check out these dream fake shows.

"Ambushed!"

Probable network: CBS

The pitch: A terror-inducing spin on "Punk'd," with a touch of "60 Minutes II."

The twist: Instead of Jon Lovitz or some other entertainment type, CBS unleashes Dan Rather to convince the victim that he/she is the target of some deadly serious media investigation that's sure to ruin them.

Key moment: Every show's signature signoff, when Rather turns sternly to the camera and says, "Courage." Then he breaks down laughing.

"Weekend Marriage in Vegas"

Probable network: UPN

The pitch: Cameras stake out Sin City chapels in search of the latest celebrity "I do—and don't!" Britney Spears and Nicky Hilton in talks to host.

The twist: The shows' producers use fake marriage licenses in an effort to keep the celebs happy and helpful.

Key moment: When celebs must face the camera the next morning and correctly identify the man/woman they married.

"The Biggest Groom"

Probable network: Fox

The pitch: Lovely ladies (you know the type) line up to see if they can impress The Groom and become his bride.

The twist: It's revealed that "The Groom" is none other than supersized "American Idol" champ Ruben Studdard.

Key moment: When Ruben softly serenades the house's sous chef.

"Star Wars Geek Fight"

Probable network: Fox

The pitch: It's the "Star Wars" triathlon: Trivia battles, costume competition and plastic lightsaber showdowns.

The twist: The host—none other than Luke Skywalker himself: Mark Hamill—with the occasional visit from Princess Leia to keep fans warm, er, happy.

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Key moment: As one young competitor lies on the floor defeated by a question about Tatooine, his conqueror stands over him, removes his Chewbacca mask and reveals, "I am your father." Tears flow.

"Audit!"

Probable network: PBS

The pitch: In a first for public television, the show follows IRS auditors as they drop in unexpectedly on tax-troubled celebs.

The twist: Host Ben Stein dryly recounts the celebs' troubles and offers timely suggestions—in his famous monotone—on deductions and tax shelters.

Key moment: Richard Hatch of "Survivor" offers interesting ways to reinterpret income tax laws.

**NOTES: FAKE OFF**

**GRAPHIC: PHOTO (color):** (Dan) Rather.

**PHOTO (color):** (Nicky) Hilton.

**PHOTO (color):** (Britney) Spears.

**PHOTO (color):** (Ben) Stein.

**PHOTO (color):** Ruben Studdard.

**PHOTO (color):** Yoda.

**PHOTOS 6**

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005



# **INDEX 248**

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Citywire

May 10, 2005 Tuesday 4:27 PM GMT

**LENGTH:** 317 words

**HEADLINE:** Vega still reaching for the stars

**BODY:**

Citywire tip Vega powered ahead today on news that profit and cash for the year just ended will be ahead of market expectations.

Shares (VEG) rose 10p to 201p, valuing the business at £40.9 million. Citywire tipped the shares originally at 52p in October 2002, and last July advised holding for the medium term at 167p.

Vega, which provides IT consulting and simulation-based training to the government and defence and space sectors, said the government and defence business performed well, particularly in areas of defence and national security, and the space business was in line with expectations.

Having walked away from the purchase of half of CodaSciSys (CSY) last year, Vega bought Anite Systems last August from Anite Group (AIE) for £7.5 million. Anite Systems is a German-based software supplier to the European space sector. The company said Anite is now fully integrated into Vega and has significantly strengthened its offering in the space market.

The company announced its first joint win with Anite Systems for the Ground Data Systems Software (GDS7) frame contract at the European Space Operations Centre (ESOC).

Vegas consulting business had a very strong year, and the company highlighted its win, in the second half, of the Command Support and Information Systems (CSIS) contract with the Defence Procurement Agency (DPA), which it said was a significant step for Vega.

Chief executive Phil Cartmell said: 'I am once again very pleased with the performance which is in line with our strategy of building a service portfolio to meet client needs'.

Vega will report results for the full year on 6 July.

Citywire Verdict:

Cartmell has done a good job of turning Vega round over the past few years and the company seems to have really found its niche.

At todays price, the shares are valued at only 13.7 times 2006 earnings, which does not look overstretched and makes it worth continuing to hold.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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PC-00713

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Citywire

May 10, 2005 Tuesday 7:37 AM GMT

**LENGTH:** 211 words

**HEADLINE:** Tuesday Papers: ManU goes to Vegas: bid news and gossip

**BODY:**

Manchester United plans a casino, HSBC doubles its Ping An stake and NTL sells Irish telecom operations.

\* BAE Systems has made an unsolicited bid to supply two frigates to Malaysia for an estimated £1 billion.

\* HSBC pays \$1.1 billion to double its stake in Ping An of China \* Manchester United plans casino with Las Vegas Sands \* Ameritrade and E\*Trade Financial to discuss a merger \* Seat holder sues New York Stock Exchange and Goldman Sachs over \$4 billion merger. \* NTL Inc sells Irish telecom operations for 325 million; to use sale proceeds to pay down senior credit line. \* Frank Mosheim raises stake in Digital Cybermasters to 7% \* Perpetual's increased offer for Securities Trust of Scotland lapses \* Jurys Doyle receives unsolicited offer approach \* Andrews Sykes sells Accommodation Hire for £10 million \* Morgan Sindall wins £450 million framework order from United Utilities \* SiRVIS IT sells SiR Learning systems for £300,000 \* Braemore Resources buys Western Consolidated Nickel in all-share deal \* Cinergy and Duke Energy agree \$36 billion merger in stock swap deal \* Toad lifts stake in 21st Century to 49% \* Laird Group buys Securidor Holdings for initial £4.5 million, including debt \* Real Estate Investors sells London property for £1.19 million

**LOAD-DATE:** May 11, 2005

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PC-00714

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CNN

SHOW: CNN LARRY KING LIVE 9:00 PM EST

May 10, 2005 Tuesday

TRANSCRIPT: 051001CN.V22

SECTION: ENTERTAINMENT

LENGTH: 7751 words

HEADLINE: Interview With Cast of 'Everybody Loves Raymond'

BYLINE: Larry King, Anderson Cooper

GUESTS: Brad Garrett, Ray Romano, Patricia Heaton

HIGHLIGHT:

Interview with cast of "Everybody Loves Raymond."

BODY:

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PATRICIA HEATON, "DEBRA" ON "EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND": Did you ever think of hugging me, you jerk?

RAY ROMANO, "RAYMOND" ON "EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND": Well, it's pretty hard to hug someone who's trying to kill you!

HEATON: Yeah? Well it never occurred to you you've never even tried it before!

ROMANO: Well, look, this is not huggable, this — this — this is not Debra. This is the woman who shows up once a month to rip into me like a monkey on a cupcake!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LARRY KING, HOST, "LARRY KING LIVE": Tonight, as America prepares to bid farewell, next week, to its favorite TV family after nine magical seasons, the stars of "Everybody Loves Raymond" are here for the hour. We'll share laughs, some memories, and Ray Romano will be along with us, along with TV-wife Patricia Heaton, and TV-brother Brad Garrett, and your phone calls, and it's all next on LARRY KING LIVE.

This Monday night will be the last of the series. Of course, it will run forever in syndication and the like. And Ray Romano, here with us, presented every member of the cast and crew with one of these diamond rings. This is Brad Garrett's, that you wear proudly, do you not?

BRAD GARRETT, "ROBERT" ON "EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND": I do. I don't think it's real because my entire wrist is green from wearing this. Is that normal? It feels weird.

KING: Is it real, Ray?

ROMANO: By the way, that's two rings melded into one to fit on your finger, by the way.

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KING: That's very nice.

ROMANO: I forgot to wear mine. I forgot to wear mine.

GARRETT: (INAUDIBLE) ...because I'm so over it. I mean, I appreciate it, but I think it would go great with the suspenders, and the...

KING: Thank you.

ROMANO: Ebay — put it on eBay for charity.

(CROSSTALK)

KING: I'll wear it for the show and then return it to you. How does that sound?

GARRETT: I like that, and it makes a lovely whistle if things get boring

KING: Ray is also co-author of "Everybody Loves Raymond: Our Family Album," along with executive producer Phil Rosenthal. There, you see its cover. Do you do a special episode for Monday night? I mean, do you do a kind of a last episode?

ROMANO: Yes, it has a finale feel to it. But, you know, we kept true to ourselves. It's not spectacular, and there's no life-changing thing. But it has a little more emotional resonance, I think. But it's a half hour. You know, we didn't want to do an hour. We didn't want to take a half hour show and stretch it into an hour like normally that happens. We just did a funny episode.

KING: And it was done in January, right?

ROMANO: January, yes.

KING: Was it emotional to do, Patricia?

HEATON: Yes, I really — we talked about it all year, actually, like, how we were going to feel on the final episode and what our reactions were going to be. And I was very — I thought I was going to be real shutdown because it's too big of a thing. It's — too much has happened to us because of this show and I just didn't think I'd be able to deal with it.

But, from the first day of rehearsal, I sobbed the whole day, and then when we got to the taping of the show, I lost my voice, and we couldn't do it. So...

ROMANO: Yeah, actually, we were ready to film — when we were ready to film the episode, literally, as we were ready to be introduced, we — Patty, in the beginning of the day, her voice was hoarse, so we waited, we waited. At showtime, the voice was gone. We had to send the audience home and do it the following week. Yeah.

KING: What was it like for you?

GARRETT: It was very emotional.

ROMANO: Were you in it?

GARRETT: I wasn't in it. I was on camera C. Ray really never involved me much. ROMANO: Oh, stop.

GARRETT: Never got over the iceman (ph).

ROMANO: No, I was going to — I interrupted a nice story.

GARRETT: No, no, no. It was, you know — we thought we were all really ready to, you know — nine years was a great run, and then it just, you know, it just — but I, you know, I cry at weather reports. I'm an emotional...

KING: How did mom and pop take it, Mr. Boyle?

ROMANO: That's what got me. I got to tell you, I was keeping it together, and when we came out for the curtain call and Peter hugged me and I saw tears in his eyes. You know, this is — because, you know, I know him as Peter, but I also know him as Frank the curmudgeon and this and that, and that was kind of heavy when I saw that.

KING: "Everybody's" — it's on the cover of "Entertainment Weekly." Look at this gag cover they did. Ray Romano and Patricia Heaton as Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh in "Gone with the Wind."

GARRETT: Is that who that's supposed to be?

KING: I guess. Look at that.

HEATON: A friend of mine actually walked by the newsstand, glanced at it and thought to herself, gee, look it, the show is not over yet and they're already photographing Ray with some other woman.

ROMANO: Really?

HEATON: Yeah.

ROMANO: That's awesome.

KING: It is also on the cover of "TV Guide." They have two covers on "TV Guide," one with just Ray and the wife, and one with the entire cast. I got my copy today in the mail with the entire cast. That's the cover.

GARRETT: So, and then, at home you get the entire cast, but if you pay for it you only get Ray and Patty.

KING: I guess.

ROMANO: As it should be!

KING: We asked — we're going to get into this — but, we asked every member of the cast to pick favorite episodes, and a favorite of Ray's was titled "How They Met," from the third season.

ROMANO: Ah, yes.

KING: It flashes back to the time Ray first met his future missus. He delivers a futon to her place, and she invites him over to dinner. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: Hey, you want something to drink?

ROMANO: Yes, yes. Let me get that.

HEATON: OK, the glasses are right there.

ROMANO: OK. Ice?

HEATON: Yes.

ROMANO: I like the — I like the round cubes with the holes in them. Those are my favorite kind of cubes. Oh! Are you okay?

HEATON: Yes, I'm fine. You keep knocking me down.

ROMANO: I know. I'm sorry. I'm sorry. You all right?

HEATON: Yes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: No tongue, by the way.

KING: No tongue.

ROMANO: Nah. I made that rule up early on.

KING: Why did this show work? It's Ray's life, right?

ROMANO: Well, it was based — I mean, the characters, the situation...

KING: Didn't it start with you appearing on "Letterman," doing this bit?

ROMANO: Yes, I was doing stand-up for 12 years. I did my first stand-up spot on "Letterman," and then the following week his company called me up to say, we want to try to develop a show based around what we saw.

KING: So, you have a brother who is a cop.



ROMANO: I have a brother who's now — he's now retired. He was a New York police sergeant. My parents have lived across the street or close enough. I have twins and a wife and the whole deal, yes, and my brother moved back in with my parents.

KING: Why did it work, Pat?

HEATON: I guess...

KING: Obviously worked. The writing?

HEATON: Me? I would say.

ROMANO: Yes, it's you and the writing.

HEATON: I guess it would be these, wouldn't you say?

ROMANO: By the way, money well spent.

GARRETT: Looks like an ad for the Judds, if you ask me. They've got a concert coming up.

ROMANO: The Judds?

GARRETT: The Judds.

ROMANO: OK, sorry, I thought I misheard there.

KING: Why does it work?

HEATON: It works because it's very true to life. The writers would come in in the morning, talk about the fight they had with their wives the night before. They'd write it down. They'd hand it to us. We'd act it superbly...

ROMANO: It's relate-able.

HEATON: ...and everybody loved it.

GARRETT: The biggest compliment — the biggest compliment you get is, boy, she's just like my mom or, you know, Ray's like my sister. I hear that all the time.

ROMANO: We got — we were lucky enough to this this chemistry with the cast and these great writers, and it was a combination of everything and people related to it.

KING: Why is it going off?

HEATON: Hmm?

KING: It's your decision, right?

HEATON: Ray?

ROMANO: Well, Phil Rosenthal and I — Phil Rosenthal, the creator, executive producer, and I — after seven years, we thought we had said a lot and we thought we did it all and we thought maybe it's time now. And then we got talked into doing another year — we didn't get talked into it. But we knew the shows were still — the quality was still there. After eight years we could sense that, we're running out of fresh ideas. That's all it was. It was creative. The actors, everybody was great. The writers still wanted to do it. But we just wanted to leave while we were on the top. We thought if we went one more year, we might have been stretching it.

KING: You agree with that decision?

GARRETT: Absolutely.

KING: You do?

GARRETT: Sure. I mean, you know, there's a part of you that doesn't want it to end, but when you step back and say, boy, the integrity of leaving as a number one sit-com, it's great. So that way you never see that rerun down the line where you went, boy, we shouldn't have done that one. And it's a really rare thing. It says a lot about Ray and Phil and the writers to have that amount of appreciation for the audience.

KING: You ought to be very proud. We'll take a break, come back. We'll be including your phone calls. We're saluting the end of an era, the end of "Everybody Loves Raymond." But you'll be seeing it forever. Where is it sold to?

ROMANO: It is on TB — it's on network, and also TBS, at the same time, yeah.

KING: As we go to break, watch Brad and mom go at it.

ROMANO: What?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: Mom, what did he do?

GARRETT: She faxed the FBI a letter about how she ruined my lucky suit.

DORIS ROBERTS, MARIE BARONE ON "EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND": I wasn't sure it went through. It was the first time I ever used a fax machine.

HEATON: Marie, why don't you go into the kitchen, and Robert, how about you just stay here and maybe blink a few times.

GARRETT: Why would you do it? Why would you send a letter? The guy looked at me like I was a pathetic, candy-ass mama's boy.

ROBERTS: Then he seems awfully critical:

GARRETT: He's the FBI, ma! I wasn't applying for a job at the Gap.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: Ray, our first few years together have been a joy to me.

ROBERTS: What are you two doing out here?

(LAUGHTER) HEATON: And I think of our life together as a journey.

ROBERTS: Please! Don't you want your appetizer?

HEATON: A great journey. And along this path you...

GARRETT: (INAUDIBLE)

HEATON: ... we would share many joyful moments together. Moments that we will remember all our — OK! I'm pregnant!

ROMANO: What?

ROBERTS: Pregnant! Debra's pregnant!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: How do you not laugh when you do that stuff? You really...

ROMANO: In rehearsal, you do. But by the time we...

HEATON: You get enough days to get it out of your system.

KING: What about the infectious of the audience laughing?

HEATON: You know, I know for me, I so want them to get the joy, the experience of getting the joke, that it totally focuses me.

ROMANO: You don't want to break character.

HEATON: I don't want to — because we have so much fun with it during the week that when we do it for the audience, I want to make — I just can't wait for them to hear it.

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KING: By the way, I forgot to do this yesterday. I want to wish happy birthday to Don Rickles. A favorite of everybody here, right? (INAUDIBLE), he's your hero.

GARRETT: My hero.

ROMANO: He was, before I even started stand-up, I remember seeing him at Westbury (ph), and one of the reasons I've started doing it.

KING: Genuine funny.

ROMANO: Yeah.

HEATON: Yes.

KING: Funny. Happy birthday, Don. You deserve it.

All right, our next is one of Patricia's favorites. It's titled "Ali's Birth." Let's just say, Uncle Robert's police cruiser came in handy when Debra went into labor. Here's what happened. (BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: What are you doing?

GARRETT: I'm delivering this baby.

ROMANO: You don't — you're not a doctor!

GARRETT: Raymond, I've had training in emergency child delivery.

ROMANO: No, no, no, I don't care. I don't care!

HEATON: You don't talk anymore. Move over! Come here, Robert.

(LAUGHTER)

ROMANO: Holy Moses.

What are you looking at?

GARRETT: I'm waiting for the baby, Raymond.

ROMANO: You legs got to be so open?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: Oh!

ROMANO: Yeah.

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: I remember that one, yes. I have that on a loop in my house.

GARRETT: I'm still using the ointment. Supposed to be four to six weeks.

ROMANO: That was a fun one.

GARRETT: She's so remarkable. You know...

HEATON: You know, I just love — I — I mean, when we're looking at these clips, there's a lot of physical comedy, the knocking down and the screaming and the legs up in the air, and there's a lot of us falling down over couches and...

KING: There's a lot of body movement.

HEATON: I love — I love — that's my favorite stuff to do.

KING: What's the next, by the way? I should get around to it, what are you going to do, Brad?

GARRETT: Well, I'm out doing some stand-up right now, actually, which is kind of my roots. I'm going back to it. Just to aggravate America one city at a time. And...

ROMANO: That's a good name for your tour.

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GARRETT: Yeah.

ROMANO: To aggravate America.

KING: To aggravate America.

GARRETT: Exactly. I'm doing that. And I'm working on a project with HBO. And there's a chance I may be doing some Broadway, which is like a dream of mine that I'm very excited about.

KING: You get residuals, of course, from...?

GARRETT: I don't. I don't. Only when it plays in Korea.

ROMANO: What are you doing on Broadway?

GARRETT: I really can't get into it right now, Ray. My publicist...

ROMANO: "Old Man Cometh?" Hold and release.

KING: Patricia, what are you going to do?

HEATON: I have a new fragrance coming out.

GARRETT: So do I.

HEATON: I'm launching a new fragrance.

KING: You're on the cover of "Life" magazine.

GARRETT: Oh my gosh.

HEATON: What?

KING: Babies. Everybody loves mom. Look at that.

GARRETT: Is that — is that — what, did she have that printed, or is that the real thing?

HEATON: That's the real thing.

KING: What I've learned from my kids. Have you got — you got a project coming?

HEATON: Yes, as I said, I'm going to be launching a new fragrance. It's called Pot Luck.

GARRETT: You're kidding me.

HEATON: It's for working moms. It smells different depending on how many days it's been since you showered. So that's what I'm working on. GARRETT: Are you serious?

ROMANO: No.

GARRETT: Oh, she's so good. She's always in the moment.

KING: You did that good. You did that good. You had (INAUDIBLE). Pot Luck.

HEATON: No...

KING: You ordered some.

HEATON: Sometimes it smells like brisket. Sometimes it smells like Clorox.

KING: What are you going to do, Patricia?

(CROSSTALK)

HEATON: I'll be working — hopefully, I have a deal with ABC now to develop my own sitcom.

ROMANO: You got a movie. You've got a movie coming, right?

HEATON: I have a movie coming up with TNT. So yeah, a lot of stuff going on.

ROMANO: I have a fragrance. It's Pot Roast is what we call that. No.

KING: What do you do?

ROMANO: I, well, like Brad...

HEATON: Broadway.

ROMANO: I love — I always — I continue to do stand-up during the show occasionally, but it's my first love, and I believe I am a stand-up, you know, deep down, that's what I am. So I'll do that. I got the animated movie "Ice Age 2" is coming out. And if look, I'd love to do another film. I did three films. One, nobody saw and it was out. Two never came — one came out so fast, a friend of mine said, can I go see it? I go, yeah, but if you hit traffic on the way to the theater, just go right to the video store.

KING: I was supposed to be in one, and they couldn't work it out to get me. I couldn't get...

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: You were supposed to be in the one that I did last summer.

KING: With Gene Hackman, when you were running against him for mayor. ROMANO: Yes. Yes.

KING: Why didn't that work?

ROMANO: You wanted money.

KING: No...

GARRETT: He meant the movie, Raymond.

ROMANO: Oh.

GARRETT: Not why he couldn't do it.

KING: "Welcome To...?"

ROMANO: It was one of those things. It was fun to do. It was a fun movie. You know, it's a weird science, film. You know, I'm just trying to get the hang of it.

GARRETT: Let me tell you where my movie career is, if I can. It won't take long. I'm picky and not in demand. And it's a brutal combination. I'm actually starting to turn down roles I'm not even up for. I called Spielberg, I said "I cannot do 'War of the Worlds,'" and he went "great."

KING: We'll be right back.

GARRETT: Where are you going? Do you do this to Rickles? Do you do it to Rickles?

KING: Yeah, but he interrupts, too.

GARRETT: I see. I'm sorry.

KING: As we're going to break, this clip is Ray says no.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: You already asleep?

ROMANO: Huh?

HEATON: You must be tired.

ROMANO: Oh, yeah. I am kind of beat. You know, I got a lot of stuff. Going on.

Maybe tomorrow.

HEATON: Really?

ROMANO: Yeah.

HEATON: OK. Well, good night.

ROMANO: Yeah. Good night. Oh.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: All right, let's see what you got. Come on. Come on. You got it. You got it. You got it. Right. Yes. Yes. You got it. Yes. Yes. Yes. All right.

CROWD: Go Robert. Go Robert. Go Robert. Go Robert. Go Robert.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: Is that scripted?

GARRETT: Not the dancing. Not the dancing.

KING: They let you go?

GARRETT: I learned it in the circus.

ROMANO: Yes.

GARRETT: Yes. Yes, we just...

ROMANO: You've got some moves.

GARRETT: Well, you know, I started as a...

KING: During the nine years, was there ever a discord? Did anyone ever, like, threaten to leave? Did you ever have a holdout for more money?

ROMANO: Sure.

KING: Things that have happened...

ROMANO: Take a call. Take a call, Larry. Yes, we had the usual. You know, it's business.

GARRETT: It wasn't among the cast.

HEATON: No.

GARRETT: It was never discord among the cast.

HEATON: Right.

ROMANO: No.

GARRETT: It was business.

KING: Was Worldwide Pants fair to you? ROMANO: Yes. I mean, we don't know who — you know, it was Worldwide Pants, there was HBO and there was CBS, so...

KING: They were all involved?

ROMANO: Yes.

KING: Well, what did the paycheck read?

GARRETT: Said, call me.

ROMANO: Paycheck said don't cash until Thursday.

KING: One of Brad's favorites — we're showing favorites of each of our guests is titled "Robert's Date." In it Robert has a new girlfriend who happens to be black. The relationship has an interesting effect on him. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GARRETT: What?

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ROMANO: Nothing. It's just I've never seen you so styling.

GARRETT: Just some new clothes, that's all. Got to get out more, my brother.

ROMANO: You having fun, huh?

GARRETT: Yes. Judy and I and some of the crew, we've been hitting the clubs, that's all.

ROMANO: Oh, you got a crew now?

GARRETT: Word.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: Wow, funny stuff.

GARRETT: Thank you.

HEATON: You know, I was on an airplane once watching our show, and laughing my head off like we're doing here watching our own episodes. And the steward came up to me and said, "I just think that it's so funny you laugh at your own show."

GARRETT: Yes.

ROMANO: Yes.

KING: You didn't — you resisted guest people — guest appearances by famous people, right? Occasionally some sports people...

ROMANO: No, we didn't resist it. The first year CBS did a lot of little stunt casting, because I played a sports writer. So they would get a lot of athletes to come on. But the show was not about the job. It was about the family. So it didn't really fit. We...

HEATON: They kind of felt like they had to do that to get the ratings going. They thought it would attract viewers when we started out.

ROMANO: We had Kareem Abdul-Jabbar in my living room. No kidding. We had Tommy Lasorda was making sauce. And it was all for stunt casting.

HEATON: Once we took off, we didn't have to do that.

KING: Was it a hit right away?

HEATON: No, no.

KING: Was there ever the threat where you might not make it?

ROMANO: Well, the first year we were on Friday nights and we were like in 80 place. But the...

KING: Why did they keep it?

ROMANO: Well, the critics were behind it. So, we were getting good press. So they gave it — more than they should have. And then at the end of the first year, he gave us six weeks on Monday night following Cosby. "Cosby" was their number one then. So we had to perform then. That was our real test, and we did. It was — it was a little nerve wracking then, because if we didn't do well then...

HEATON: Then we would have been out.

ROMANO: Yes. Yes. And we improved on "Cosby's" audience and then he kept us on Monday for the rest of it. Yes.

KING: How did it affect all of you being a hit? I mean, fame, how did that affect you, Brad, really, seriously? You get recognized, right?

GARRETT: Yes, I mean, you get recognized. But it's — after so many years, you know, of chipping away, it's nice to get that validation and have people watch. And there's nothing like the parking, you know to be honest, to pull up to a place every day and know that you're going to do what you love. I mean, it's...

KING: What was it like for you, Pat?

HEATON: Well, it's great to be on a job that lasts a long time that you love. I mean, I can't imagine having to go to work every day and not getting along with the people or not liking the writing or whatever. So we just had the best of all worlds. And all of us had more children during the run of the show. You started with three, you end up with four. I started with two, had two more. You have two now.

ROMANO: You had zero...

GARRETT: Yes. Yes. Yes, true.

HEATON: So, it was...

ROMANO: But you're too tired to take in the fame.

KING: How about your fame, Ray?

ROMANO: Well, you know what — look, there's no complaining. The perks are great. I love — I love the little things. I love being able to go to Disneyland and not have to stand in the line with four kids.

KING: You don't stand in line?

ROMANO: Easy. I have to put the outfit on. I've got to walk around...

(LAUGHTER)

ROMANO: But I think, you know, the problems — you know, I was neurotic. I've always said, you know, before the show I thought my cab driver hated me. Now I think my limo driver hates me. That's all. It's just is a different level.

KING: He's still neurotic, right. He's still...

HEATON: He's still neurotic.

ROMANO: Well, I'm not — I mean, it's just — all I'm trying to say is, you know, it's great, but I think life is the same just on a different level.

GARRETT: You know what's great — and I know I say this a lot, and just probably tired of it. He hasn't changed a bit. Which is — which is, you know, a wonderful...

KING: Some people don't change, circumstances change.

GARRETT: That's true.

ROMANO: People around you...

GARRETT: People around you change because they think...

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: Because of the way — the way people react to you changes.

HEATON: Yes.

GARRETT: Yes.

KING: We'll take a break, and when we come back, we'll include your phone calls. As we go — by the way, Condoleezza Rice is our guest tomorrow night.

HEATON: My hero.

GARRETT: You know that was my — that was my nickname in high school.

ROMANO: Rice cakes.

KING: I'll tell her that tomorrow.

GARRETT: Please. Please.

(CROSSTALK)



KING: She's returning tonight with the president. She'll be with us tomorrow night in Washington. And as we go to break, bloopers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GARRETT: I'm home, Lily.

And there you are at work, and then you come breezing home — look what I wrote. Where's my dinner. How much — oh!

See everybody at graduation, and then pow.

HEATON: Robert, this is your first time teaching.

GARRETT: Yes. Well, the supervisor said it may be my last.

HEATON: Now, that's not fair. But you probably...

GARRETT: No. No. No. Can I have another line!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: Where is my tape recorder, Ray? Where was my tape recorder when I was in labor with the twins for 36 hours and you were asking the nurse if the TV gets ESPN?

ROMANO: I mean, 36 hours, that's not a short time.

HEATON: Yeah. Guess what? It's even longer when you're trying to push two human beings out of your body while your husband is going "does this hospital have fudgesickles?" Yeah! Where is my tape recorder, huh? Or when you asked me why I get so upset because I find your underpants in the kitchen, huh? Or when you start snoring at my grandmother's funeral? When you tape the football game over our wedding video!

ROMANO: Do you really need a tape recorder? You seem to remember everything.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: Our guests are Ray Romano, Patricia Heaton and Brad Garrett of "Everybody Loves Raymond." Their final show is Monday night on CBS. And then, of course, they'll be in rerun forever.

The first three seasons of "Everybody Loves Raymond" are available on DVD from HBO Video. There you see the covers. A boxed set of the third season was just released last week.

Let's go to calls. Dayton, Ohio, hello.

CALLER: Hi. Good evening, Larry.

KING: Hi.

CALLER: Hi, everybody. How are you?

HEATON: Good.

ROMANO: Good. Hi.

CALLER: I just love your show.

ROMANO: Thank you.

HEATON: Thank you.

CALLER: One of my favorite shows was the Thanksgiving turkey that fell on the floor about four or five times. That was hilarious. But my question is, I'm sure you get tons of fan mail. Was there anything that somebody had written in to you that you may have incorporated on the show?

ROMANO: That we used on the show? No.

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KING: Did anyone ever give you ideas, though?

HEATON: See, you're not getting a check. I don't know what you sent in, but...

ROMANO: Yeah, we couldn't do that anyway even if we wanted to. But some people would send in ideas that we kind of did already. You know, there was a version of that we did already. A lot of people would send in pictures. This I got a kick out of, of relatives that looked like us.

KING: You're kidding?

ROMANO: Yeah.

GARRETT: It's unbelievable.

ROMANO: Some of it was scary.

GARRETT: I was someone's Aunt Selma at one point.

ROMANO: Yeah.

GARRETT: Yeah.

ROMANO: How about the husband and wife that looked exactly like Peter and Doris?

GARRETT: And they did.

ROMANO: Yeah.

GARRETT: And they did.

ROMANO: Yeah.

KING: Reno, Nevada. Hello.

CALLER: Yes. My comment is, first of all, I want the entire cast to realize that I consider "Everybody Loves Raymond" one of the top three comedies ever on television.

HEATON: Thank you.

CALLER: And that's right up there with "I Love Lucy."

And my comment is — and my question, actually, is did you guys really know how great that show was?

ROMANO: So sweet. That show, meaning our show? Not "I Love Lucy."

(CROSSTALK)

GARRETT: She's calling about Lucy, Ray.

KING: Sometimes you can be too close to the forest. Did you realize?

HEATON: Well, like I said...

(CROSSTALK)

HEATON: ... I'd be on an airplane and I would watch it as if I wasn't even in the show. I mean, I could get distance from it. And when I would read the scripts, I was so excited. I was especially obsessed with Brad's character, Robert. I loved him. He's such a sad sack. And I just always, you know, wanted to...

KING: I mean, did you realize how good — it's a good question.

GARRETT: You know, you're in a bubble for nine years. I mean, you're constantly there. You have very little contact with the outside folks. And when you finally get out and about, whether it's doing whatever we do, you see the impact it has. ROMANO: I think — I think you see — when you get out and about, you see how many people like the show. But it's so hard — I mean, I don't know how you are, but as a stand-up comic, you've got a weird thing going in your head. There's two things going at once. You think you're great and you think you're horrible at the same time. So it's hard to get wrapped up in the good press. It really is. Yeah, does that work for you, no?

GARRETT: No, not at all.

KING: There's another one of our favorites...

GARRETT: I don't have an evil twin yet, Ray.

KING: This is one of Ray's favorites. "Bad Moon Rising." We set it up with two names, Ray and Debra, and three letters, PMS. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HEATON: That's right, Ray. I remember everything, and I'm not going to forget either.

ROMANO: Honey, I think you make some excellent points here, but I can't help wondering that, you know, maybe part of the reason you're so upset right now might possibly be PMS-related.

HEATON: (INAUDIBLE) get me a tape recorder, and I cannot believe you just said that!

ROMANO: I don't know what to do, I just don't know what to do.

HEATON: Yeah, yeah. No kidding. Listen, if I had PMS — and I'm not saying that I have — is that how you help me? By taping me? By telling me I have PMS?

ROMANO: Well, where do you want me to go? I don't know what to do! Show me what to do. Just draw it out for me!

HEATON: Have you ever thought about giving me a hug?

ROMANO: A hug!

HEATON: Yes, a hug. Did you ever think of hugging me, you jerk!

ROMANO: Well, it's pretty hard to hug someone's who's trying to kill you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: All true. That one comes...

KING: That happened in life?

ROMANO: That hit close. That was written by Phil Rosenthal and myself. HEATON: His wife said it's verbatim, Monica Horan, who plays Brad's wife, Amy.

ROMANO: It's good to make money off it, though, right? If you are going to have to live through it.

KING: Well, that's right, you got to live through. Oh, foxhole humor. Wasn't funny when it was happening.

ROMANO: No.

KING: We'll take a break and we'll be right back with more calls and more highlights. Don't go away.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROBERTS: So, I'm not gone a month, and my 100-year-old priceless Bulgarian upright piano is in the basement, and has been replaced by you with this.

GARRETT: Do you even know what that is, ma?

ROBERTS: Yes, I do know what that is! I may be an ancient relic as far as you're concerned, but I'm still able to know what things are. This is a sex machine!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: We're back. New Market, Ontario, hello.

CALLER: Hi, everyone.

KING: Hi.

HEATON: Hello.

ROMANO: Hi.

CALLER: We all love you in Canada very much.

HEATON: Thank you.

GARRETT: Thank you.

ROMANO: Thank you.

CALLER: My question is, because you'll always be Robert, Debra and Ray Ramone — Barone, sorry, how do you move on from that?

HEATON: Well, they decided to stop shaving, which I guess they think it's going to make a difference, right?

KING: (INAUDIBLE), how do you shake that image?

ROMANO: How do you shake the image? Yeah, it's tricky. I mean, you're talking about working somewhere else and

KING: But you don't have to, really, right? Because if you're a stand-up, you stay in mode.

ROMANO: Well, no, if I want to do stand-up, I'm going to...

KING: But if you want to do movies, yeah.

ROMANO: Yeah, it's a tricky transition. I think it's nudity. I think you go nude.

GARRETT: Yeah. Well, you know, it's a business where I think you always have to reinvent yourself anyway. You know, and if people say, you know, but if you're typecast — if you're typecast, that means that people watch and they buy you as that character. And that's a good thing. You know? It means you were on a hit.

ROMANO: No, but it's a legitimate — it can be a legitimate problem.

HEATON: Then, again if you're a real actor, it won't be an issue.

GARRETT: That's not an issue here tonight, for sure.

KING: So, Patricia will not have a problem?

GARRETT: No, she's a chameleon, Patricia. You can see her commercials.

ROMANO: If you see Albertson's commercials, you know.

KING: Dalton, Georgia. Hello.

Caller: Hi. Being the mother of two boys, I have adored this show for all the years. My question is to Patricia Heaton. How have you — when did you and how did you conceal your real-life pregnancies on the air?

HEATON: Well, if you watch the shows over the years, you'll see every year I was pregnant, my hair got bigger to try to balance it out, and I just ended up looking like a pumpkin, unfortunately. But we just used big flannel shirts, and I acted behind the couch and carried a lot of...

GARRETT: You acted behind me.

HEATON: Actually, they put Brad in my light and...

KING: Why didn't the writers give her another kid?

HEATON: We, actually, we had — I think a script flashback where I was pregnant.

ROMANO: While you were pregnant we did a flashback to when you were pregnant. But, we weren't going to add a kid because we seldom show the kids anyway. So, we didn't need to do that. We show the kids, you know, at the right time.

KING: Because you would think a lot of funny things would come up over pregnancy.

ROMANO: Well, we did the flashbacks of her pregnancies. But CBS didn't want to pay another kid.

KING: Another one of the favorites, this is one of Patricia's favorites, called "The Home." Robert and Amy break the

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news to Ray and Debra that Frank and Marie are selling their home — I love this one — and moving 85 minutes away. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Wait until you hear the best part.

GARRETT: We get the house.

HEATON: What?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Our own house!

ROMANO: You get the house?

GARRETT: We get the house. \$26,000.

ROMANO: Whoa, why do you get that?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What do you care, Ray?

ROMANO: \$26,000.

HEATON: 85 minutes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: Yes.

KING: Is it as much fun to do it, to be a part of it? I mean...

HEATON: That — I love those — that was so much fun. I just loved that.

ROMANO: Well, that was cool to do because this is our ninth year and that was the second show or the first show?

HEATON: First show.

ROMANO: And I got more comments from that — from that one scene. So, people were still surprised and still laughing.

HEATON: To be in the ninth year, if you're still accomplishing that, that's a great thing.

KING: You ever have second thoughts about leaving?

ROMANO: No. I mean, I have — I'm worried about it. I'm worried about what I'm going — what's it going to be like.

KING: But no second thoughts that this was a mistake.

HEATON: But you know it was the right thing to do.

ROMANO: No, no, I don't think so. I mean, no, the answer is no.

KING: Davis, California. Hello.

CALLER: Good afternoon, Larry. (INAUDIBLE) speak with you tonight. My favorite characters are Peter Boyle and Doris Roberts. Ray, would you ever consider working on the...

(AUDIO GAP),

ROMANO: I don't know what it is, but...

KING: I have no idea what it is...

HEATON: But he's available.

KING: Those two were with us last time when we had the whole cast.

GARRETT: They're amazing. Just amazing.

KING: What are they going to do? You know, what's Peter going — well, he'll always get roles.

ROMANO: And Doris is...

HEATON: Doris is already...

GARRETT: Doris does more than, I think, all of us, pretty much. She's always...

HEATON: She was always, always, even through the show, she was always working.

ROMANO: She was always — and she's on vacation, she's on a cruise to France, she's in a castle somewhere. Yes.

HEATON: She flew to India one Christmas break. Remember that, the first year? India.

KING: And Peter's one of the...

ROMANO: She ran with the bulls. It's crazy.

KING: Peter's a great character actor.

ROMANO: Peter — yes. He was, you know, the first year, we both came from New York, we both stayed in the same apartment complex.

HEATON: Without your families.

ROMANO: Yes, the families stayed, and I was the new guy and he took me under his...

HEATON: You fell in love.

ROMANO: Yeah, yeah. No, he was a good buddy to me, yes.

KING: Who could forget him in "Young Frankenstein"? Really great.

HEATON: We'd bring our kids to the set and Peter would do Frankenstein and chase the kids around the set. They loved it.

KING: We'll take a break and be back with more of "Everybody Loves Raymond." Don't go away.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: How about my little Steinbrenner joke?

ROBERTS: It wasn't funny. It isn't nice to hurt other people's feelings.

ROMANO: Is that right?

I think you are the most beautiful woman on the face of the earth. And I know...

HEATON: You spent so much effort putting together this fake checkbook. Why didn't you just take that same amount of effort when you were doing it to do it right...

ROMANO: You have been drinking.

What if she's great at piano? You got to stick to stuff. You can't quit after three lessons. Did I quit asking you to marry me after the restraining order?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: A couple of things we should mention. At 8:00 Eastern time there's a special documentary looking back at the last year of "Everybody Loves Raymond" on CBS, and then at 9:00, the last of the series, right? This documentary airs...

ROMANO: Yes. Right.

KING: And Ray has a children's book out as well, called "Raymie, Dickie, and the Bean: Why I Love and Hate My Brothers."

ROMANO: Yes, I wrote it with my brothers. My one brother is a New York cop and the other one's a New York teacher, public school teacher. So, we have a children's book that came out.

KING: For what age?

ROMANO: Like, four to eight.

KING: Good, I'll get it for the boys.

ROMANO: Good.

KING: You will be appearing, stand-up, on May 17th at Meyerhoff's Symphony Hall in Baltimore.

GARRETT: Yes.

KING: Very funny guy, and May 19th at the Powers Auditorium in Youngstown, Ohio.

Blacksville, West Virginia. Hello.

CALLER: Hi, Larry. My compliments to your guests for a wonderful programming, and to you as well.

KING: Thank you.

CALLER: I would like to ask your panel what their perspective is on television situation comedies. It seems like we're inundated with so many comedies, many of them not nearly the quality of "Everybody Loves Raymond." What do they see down the road in terms of the future of situation comedies during the family hour?

KING: Good question. Ray?

ROMANO: Well, as far as family comedies, I think there's probably not many. There's a lack of them now, and people are saying like it's the end of the sitcom because of reality shows and this. But I don't agree with that. I think it's the end until the next good one comes along.

HEATON: It is all cyclical, and as Phil Rosenthal, our producer, always stressed — I mean, he's right — is that it's about the writing. You have to start out — we started out with real characters who were really fleshed out and had histories.

KING: A lot of them aren't, though.

HEATON: A lot of them aren't. A lot of them, they take a stock sitcom character — we need the funny friend — we need this or that, and they throw it together, and there's really no there, there.

ROMANO: I was going to say it is cyclical, but I have trouble with that word.

HEATON: Cyclical...

KING: Is Phil going to produce another show?

ROMANO: Yeah, Phil'll find — yes, he's talented.

KING: You have (INAUDIBLE) sitcoms. GARRETT: I think it's really what they — it's very difficult to make all of those pieces fit and work and the writing is crucial, and I think it's probably the most coveted, creative force in television, is the writing.

ROMANO: How about (INAUDIBLE) your spin-off will be a good sitcom if they'd ever....

KING: Why don't you do a spin-off?

ROMANO: Come on.

KING: The brother.

ROMANO: The brother.

GARRETT: Why didn't you say something? This is a wonderful idea.

KING: Rhoda.

GARRETT: Rhoda.

KING: You can be the new Rhoda.

GARRETT: It's Robert.

(CROSSTALK)

KING: Rhoda spun off from Mary Tyler Moore.

GARRETT: Yes.

KING: You would be the male Rhoda, Robert — it was hip. See, when I said Rhoda (INAUDIBLE) hip.

GARRETT: See, what do I know? That's why I didn't pick up on the hip. I thought he was calling me Rhoda, I was going to say...

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: I don't know...

KING: Another favorite episode, this from Brad, is called "Robert's Rodeo." In it, Robert the cop survives a run-in with a bull, but Robert's ego gets really bruised. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Coming up on News 2 at 11:00, we have exclusive home video of a police chase. Only this time, the police are being chased, by a bull. You won't believe it.

All that and more coming up on News 2.

HEATON: That was scary, right? ROMANO: You look good.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: Were you scared there?

KING: Where did you do that?

ROMANO: I did it on the back lot of Warner Brothers.

KING: They sent a bull out?

ROMANO: They did. And, you know, to do anything athletic or — to me, that's a stunt. You know, you can't get a Jewish guy to jump off a porch.

KING: Correct.

GARRETT: You know that.

KING: Correct.

GARRETT: So they're like — and they laid this out to me like three days before. Phil says, you're going to meet a bull. It's very nice. We're going to put some biscuits in your pocket and you're going to run. It is going to smell your biscuits and then it's going to — and it was frightening. It was really, really frightening for me. And...

ROMANO: No, but we had everything under control.

GARRETT: It wasn't under control. They had a zetzer (ph) — I'm over here, Larry. They had a zetzer — I'm sorry. They had a zetzer — maybe I'll talk to you, the nephew.

KING: No, because I got to go to break.

GARRETT: OK.

KING: So I hear what you say.

GARRETT: But you're just not into it. That's cool.

ROMANO: He's working a lot of things here.

(CROSSTALK)

GARRETT: It's just a bull.

KING: That's a lot of bull.



We'll be back with more moments with "Everybody Loves Raymond." Don't go away.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROMANO: Another one. Come on. OK. Great. Now we try a happy one. Go ahead, think happy thoughts.

GARRETT: I got nothing.

ROMANO: Remember when dad got his arm stuck in the vending machine?

GARRETT: That was funny.

ROMANO: Yeah. How about when mom was talking and the moth flew in?

GARRETT: Keep going.

ROMANO: Remember when I almost got fired?

GARRETT: You almost got fired?

ROMANO: There you go. There you go.

GARRETT: When did you almost get fired?

ROMANO: I don't know. But Debra almost left me.

GARRETT: You are good at this!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KING: Longview, Texas. Hello.

CALLER: Hi. We all love you here in Longview, Texas.

ROMANO: Thank you.

HEATON: Thank you.

CALLER: And thank goodness for reruns. Ray, I'd like to know where you'll be doing stand-up comedy.

KING: Are you going to do a tour?

ROMANO: I got a date in Vegas next month at the Mirage. And a couple of gigs in summer. But I'm not going to do like a — no, I'm not going to go on the road.

GARRETT: I think you'll be in Texas at the gag silo, won't you?

KING: What?

GARRETT: The gag silo. Fabulous room. It's a little tinny, but it's...

(CROSSTALK)

KING: You're at the Mirage in Vegas next week? ROMANO: Yes, yes.

KING: Now, do you — is it all new material?

ROMANO: No. No. That's the problem. That's one thing I'm looking forward to, is writing some new material, because man, I'm sick of my act. When I'm on the show, I can't — I don't have time to write material. I'm busy, you know.

GARRETT: He's fabulous. He kills. And he's always (INAUDIBLE).

ROMANO: Brad and I did a gig together in Vegas.

HEATON: Vegas.

GARRETT: We were like the Rat Pack, but without the talent. It was an incredible...

ROMANO: Or the cool.

KING: You did a double stand-up?

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ROMANO: Yeah.

GARRETT: At the Mirage, we both did a thing.

KING: You opened, he closed?

GARRETT: Exactly.

ROMANO: Well, we co-headlined. We co-headlined, then we came on at the end and we did a little thing.

GARRETT: I wouldn't say closed.

ROMANO: We co-headlined.

GARRETT: We did. We had a great time.

KING: (INAUDIBLE)

HEATON: I have a new fragrance coming out called Pot Luck.

KING: What is it with the fragrance?

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: By the way, you start another (INAUDIBLE).

HEATON: I am, actually, I'm along with Brad...

KING: you were a singer?

HEATON: I sing, yeah.

KING: So why don't you open for them? ROMANO: There you go.

HEATON: Hey.

GARRETT: Wouldn't that be amazing?

HEATON: Me on top of a piano.

ROMANO: Wow.

HEATON: Picture this in your act. Now, we're selling tickets in Baltimore. What can I tell you, right?

(CROSSTALK)

ROMANO: ... since the magazine came out.

KING: So you'll all be in New York on Monday night, right? For the...

ROMANO: Yes.

KING: ... finale. You're going to see a special showing of your own — this documentary Monday night was...

ROMANO: They stayed with us. They stayed backstage.

HEATON: It was crew that filmed us for a year.

ROMANO: For the whole kind of, yeah. So you get a glimpse back there, and then there's some clips. And then some interviews with us. And then the show from 9:00 to 9:30, and then we're unemployed. That's it.

KING: Does it feel like it's over, though, since you finished it in January?

ROMANO: I don't think it's going to feel like it's over until — because it's still...

HEATON: Until August, when we were supposed to go back to work. And then...

KING: Is that the way it always went?

(CROSSTALK)

HEATON: ... March, and then you go back in August.

ROMANO: I haven't told my wife it's over, by the way, because I want to get out of the house. So I'm just going to tell her I'm going to work — and she doesn't watch the show anyway, so I'll just show her some...

KING: There were moments when it got serious, too, the show, right? You touched on serious moments? ROMANO: At the right time.

HEATON: They'd always come in and cut it with some great...

ROMANO: Yeah, we'd treacle cut it is (INAUDIBLE).

GARRETT: Just when you thought like it was getting heavy, you had one of the best lines...

HEATON: Best punchlines.

GARRETT: ... that you can imagine.

ROMANO: To undercut it. To undercut it. But yeah, we — you know, when it was the right moment — but far and few between. But you earn it. You had to earn it with the comedy first.

KING: It's my honor now, Brad, to return this ring, which I know you will treasure.

ROMANO: Have it cleaned and...

KING: For many years to come. That's a good idea. You gave a ring to everybody?

ROMANO: Sure, I gave the cast and crew a little like graduation high school kind of thing. Which I didn't have the privilege of doing. Wait a minute, I graduated high school.

GARRETT: Did you graduate?

ROMANO: Yeah, I did.

KING: What school?

ROMANO: I went to three different schools, high schools.

GARRETT: At the same time.

ROMANO: I graduated from Hillcrest in Jamaica, Queens.

KING: Ah. Lafayette in Brooklyn.

GARRETT: El Camino Real high school in Woodland Hills, California.

HEATON: And Bay High School in Bay Village, Ohio.

ROMANO: You're smart, though.

(CROSSTALK)

HEATON: ... pretty.

KING: That's it, guys.

GARRETT: Thanks, Larry.

KING: Tomorrow night, Condoleezza Rice, which was the name Brad used...

GARRETT: It's amazing.

KING: ... in high school.

ROMANO: Why don't we do Vegas with her?

KING: Yeah, Condi could open.

GARRETT: Yeah, there you go.

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KING: But right now, it's "NEWSNIGHT." Aaron Brown is off tonight. Sitting in is Anderson Cooper. Anderson, I'm going to give you...

ROMANO: I like him. I like Anderson.

KING: "Everybody Loves Raymond" is going to toss to you. This is your job now, Ray.

ROMANO: Take it away, take it away, Anderson!

KING: Look in that camera and toss to him like you see him. Give him a big...

ROMANO: Ladies and gentlemen, the Coop, as we call him.

KING: The Coop!

ROMANO: Yeah, back in the day. Take it away, Anderson.

ANDERSON COOPER, GUEST HOST, "NEWSNIGHT": Yeah, we go back. We go back. Kicking it old school. Thanks, guys.

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LOAD-DATE: May 11, 2005

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Daily News (New York)

May 10, 2005 Tuesday  
SPORTS FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** SUBURBAN; Pg. 3

**LENGTH:** 715 words

**HEADLINE:** BLACKOUT SOCKED YANK FANS, TOO

**BYLINE:** BY DENIS HAMILL

**BODY:**

It was fun while it lasted.

The dark cloud of the Mets TV blackout has lifted, but while it was there, it had a few silver linings.

To start with, it gave married guys from Bay Ridge to Bayside a perfect excuse for escaping to corner saloons to watch Mets games on special hookups.

"I'd love to stay home with you and the kids, honey, but the Mets are only playing down in the bar," was the new furlough line around town.

I met one guy named Sean in Rhythm and Booze - a Windsor Terrace bar that airs all the games - who is considering a pair of lawsuits over the blackout.

"I'm thinking of suing the Mets and Mayor Bloomberg," Sean said. "Both of them are turning me into an alky. I never went to the bar as often as I do now because of the Mets and the anti-smoking law."

He says he'll claim that first the Mets made him a fan, and then they deprived him of the games.

"And so they've forced me into bars like someone looking for a drink in a speakeasy during Prohibition," he said. "Plus, I'm a nonsmoker. So before Bloomberg was elected, I could never last in a smoky bar more than two innings before I coughed my way out the door. Now with Bloomberg's anti-smoking law, the air is so clear and sweet I stay and drink for the whole nine innings! Even extra innings! So I figure Bloomberg and the Mets oughtta pay for my alcohol rehab bill."

Not to mention his shrink bills.

But he's only half nuts. The Mets blackout indeed affected family life. There's no telling how many divorce proceedings will be filed because husbands started affairs with female Mets barflies during the TV blackout.

But, hey, at least the Mets are playing .500 ball.

The very best part of the Mets blackout was that there was no Yankees blackout. And so a lot of henpecked Mets fans who couldn't escape to the corner tavern were forced to stay home and watch the Yankees.

But this year the Yanks STUNK OUT the city during the first month of the season. At one point, the Yankees were actually tied for last place. And so all the Mets fans, who used to get taunting, gloating calls from Yankees fans, are now reveling in the sweet payback.

Forget the Subway Series. The new sport in town has been Mets fans ragging on Yankees fans because the Yanks have been playing like, well, the old Mets.

My friend Ray Garvey, who dishonors his native National League Brooklyn by being a life-long Yankees fan, runs the comedy club in the Borgata Hotel Casino in Atlantic City. He has been known to call Red Sox and Mets fans at 3 a.m., humming the Yankees theme music and ragging their teams.

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"These days, I can't answer my phones," he says. "I screen all my calls. I have tortured so many Mets and Red Sox fans over the years that the payback is now more than I can bear.

"I'll answer the phone and it'll be Tommy Boy from Sheepshead Bay, who I once taunted so bad about the Mets that he destroyed his \$200 telephone and threw a beer bottle through a big screen TV. These days he calls to laugh, taunt, gloat and curse out me and every Yankee on the team."

Garvey says he'll get a call-interrupt and it'll be his other friend Flavian, who tends bar at the Log Cabin on Avenue Z. "Fla's another insane Mets fan I tormented for the past 20 years," he says. "And now after the Yankees lose and the Mets win he'll call humming the Yankees theme to me after they lose another one. Then when I have those two on the hard line, my cell phone'll be ringing. And it's a comic from Boston doing a new 'Yankees-really-suck' routine over the phone.

"And I'll get a beep on the cell and it'll be a guy from Philly, and he'll be saying welcome to the cellar. That's why I had to leave town. I booked myself a standup gig at the Riviera here in Vegas. Not for the work. To get away from Yankees haters who are having the time of their lives this season!"

Okay, so the Yanks might be pulling out of a slump with a pair of shutout wins.

But the meltdown in the Bronx was the perfect antidote to the Mets blackout this season. Where once the refrain was, "Yanks win another one?" this year everywhere you go in town people ask, "Did the Yanks lose again?"

"It's like the Yankees season has been turned into an episode of 'The Apprentice,'" Sean said. "People aren't betting as much on games as they are on who Steinbrenner will fire first." [dhamill@nydailynews.com](mailto:dhamill@nydailynews.com)

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FD (Fair Disclosure) Wire

May 10, 2005 Tuesday

**TRANSCRIPT:** 051005ao.779

**LENGTH:** 9299 words

**HEADLINE:** Toll Brothers Second Quarter Preliminary Outlook Conference Call - Final

**BODY:**

**OPERATOR:** Welcome to the Toll Brothers second quarter outlook conference call. At this time, I would like to inform you that this conference is being recorded and that all participants are in a listen only-mode.

At the request of the company, we will open the conference out for questions and answers after the presentation. I will turn the call over to Mr. Robert Toll, Chairman and CEO. Please go ahead sir.

**ROBERT TOLL, CHAIRMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TOLL BROTHERS INC.:** Toll Thank you Patty (ph). Welcome, everybody. Thank you for joining me and the rest of us. With me is Joel Rassman Chief financial Officer, Fred Cooper, Senior Vice President of Finance, and Investor Relations, Kira McCarron, Chief Marketing Officer and Craig Ziglar (ph) Director of Finance.

Before I begin, I ask you to read the statement on forward-looking information in today's release and on our website. I caution you that many statements during this call are based on assumptions of that economy, world events, housing, financial markets, revenue and other factors beyond our control that could significantly affect future results.

Those listening on the Web can e-mail questions to our Toll at [www.Tollbrothersinc.com](http://www.Tollbrothersinc.com). We will try to answer as many questions as possible.

We've just completed our best second quarter ever. Our second quarter '05 contracts rose 38% over the second quarter '04 to approximately 2.2 billion.

The average price of contracts signed was 693,000 per home, versus 617,000 in the second quarter of '04. It's sort of a milestone for us. This was the first time that we have ever signed 2 billion in contracts in a single quarter.

Second quarter homebuilding revenues rose 51% over '04 to approximately 1.2 billion with an average price per home delivered of 641,000 versus 557,000 in the second quarter of '04.

Second quarter in backlog rose 57% to approximately 5.87 billion, this was the highest of any quarter in our history. The average price of homes in backlog was 685,000 versus 601,000 in the second quarter of '04.

Six months' numbers were also records. Contracts rose 46% to approximately 3.6 billion, and the homebuilding revenues rose 58% to approximately 2.2 billion. These results are preliminary and un-audited. We will be announcing final results and updating detailed guidance when we announce earnings on May 26, '05.

Demand for luxury homes remains strong, and we continued to enjoy strong pricing power. Based on the pace of current demand and our all-time record backlog, which now includes many deliveries stretching into the second quarter of fiscal year '06, we remain on track for what we believe will be approximately 60% net income growth in fiscal year '05, and approximately 20% net income growth in fiscal year '06.

In 12 of the 13 weeks comprising our second quarter of fiscal year '05 are non-binding reservation deposits, which are a precursor to sign contracts, were either the highest or the second highest per community, that is same-store, since 1987. These are a key leading indicator of future results.

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The growth in our community count amplifies the strength in same-store deposits. We ended the quarter with 227 communities compared to 205 one year ago. These factors, coupled with our record backlog, will contribute to our growth in fiscal year '06.

We delivered 1912 homes, our second quarter record and 31% more than we delivered in the same period one-year ago. Unit deliveries were 13 homes under the low end of the range of our most recent guidance. While the average home price was slightly above the high end of the range.

The shortfall was due to several factors, weather-related delays in Arizona, Vegas, and some other areas, more significantly Reno, Metro DC and New England as well. We had an electric utility strike in Central New Jersey.

And, we had a problem getting final building inspections in several communities, apparently several communities all at the same time, adopted a new code. And the inspectors would not come out until they went through some teaching courses and programming with respect to how to conduct the inspection of the new code. And, so the homes that should have settled in the second quarter are going to settle in the third quarter.

We remain comfortable with our previous guidance that we will deliver between 8050 and 8,400 homes by the end of fiscal year '05. Our backlog now extends about 11 months on average providing revenue visibility into the second quarter of fiscal '06.

We could have signed more contracts this quarter, but since we lock in buyers' home prices for them when they sign a contract we have been reluctant, we have been reluctant to lock sales prices more than a year ahead of estimated delivery.

When we get to a 12-month projected delivery time, we almost only stop selling until we have reduced that delivery time to 11 months, and then we open it up for another month's worth of production.

We believe this strategy reduces our risk and maximizes the profit potential of each home in our communities. The demand imbalance, when we temporarily shut down sales probably enhances our pricing power, as well.

The number of contracts we signed rose 23% this quarter, our contracts rose in every region but the West Coast, California. The decline in California was not due to a lack of demand but rather to a lack of supply, as we sold out of several communities at a much faster pace than we have been able to gain entitlements to open up the new ones.

We have a number of new sites in the approval pipeline that should increase our California community count in the coming year. It will get back to equal to the first quarter '05 by late fiscal '06.

We currently control approximately 68,000 lots compared to 58,000 one year ago, and continue to see attractive land buying opportunities in most markets. We believe that this lot position in the flow of markets, which represents a five to six year supply based on our historic pace of growth positions us well for future growth.

Our housing market has remained strong through 8 consecutive interest rate hikes from the Federal Reserve. Long-term rates have remained low, although shorter rates, of course, had risen. Some are positive that as mortgage rates rise housing demand will be curtailed - not (ph) big builders must prove themselves in a rising rate environment.

I will take the opportunity to point out that we have seen this movie before. We had to prove ourselves in 1995, 1997 and 2000 when mortgage rates rose in those years our revenues rose 28% '95, 28% '97 and 23% in 2000 even as national single-family housing starts decline.

So, we will prove it once again. I'm not sure that will make a difference, but sooner or later, I believe that we and the other major homebuilding companies will make believers out of the investing public.

We believe Toll Brothers marches to a different beat in the housing market, in general, due to our luxury market rates and the land we control in some of the most desired locations.

We believe luxury buyers are less impacted by interest rate hikes than less affluent buyers are affected. And, again, we go back to '95 when the interest rate went up to 8.5 and 1997, 8.25, and 2000, 8.5, and did well.

So many have argued, including me, that speculators and investors are helping to support the buoyant housing market. I think this is true. However, I do not know what the impact will be on those particular markets that are more impacted than others - speculators when those markets do let some air out of the balloon, and surely that will happen.

I am confused because in San Francisco Bay area, with the tech implosion, we lost 170,000 jobs. It is not just

speculators pulling back from the market. The Commerce Department equated the 170,000 jobs to a city in excess of 350,000 people getting wiped out.

And yet, after the crack in prices, which was about 20%, I believe in the San Francisco area, within 10 or 11 months the market had returned to an all-time high.

The only thing we can guess or speculate on what happened is that once upon a time there were five buyers every home in the San Francisco area. And we ended up on it was about two buyers for every home.

In Las Vegas, mid to late '04, we had a crack in the market. Prices back down about 20% in communities around somewhere in the biggest master-planned community in the country.

It was speculated that this is it, that it would take a couple of years to recover, news reports were put out that there were 17,000 speculative overhang in the Vegas area. And, within about 3.5 months, we came back to an all-time high.

So, it appears that the fundamentals of supply and demand that — driven by the demographics — are driving our business in general, not interest rates and not a speculative investor.

I would be more than happy to hear from you, as to what your prognosis is as to what can cause this market to go down, because surely we cannot go up forever. And yet, the demographics imply that we're in for happy times for some time to come.

We try not to sell speculators. We train our sales associates how to spot them. We have a questionnaire that one must fill out before we go to the trouble of creating an agreement of sale and the qualification questionnaire generally in bold print says, basically if you're an investor, do not go any further, stop, you made a mistake, go visit somebody else.

We have that clause basically in our agreement of sale, as well. Some places we point out that it basically states that if you sell the house within the year, at any of your profits go to Toll Brothers. We think it has the desired effect and then we get very few investors buying our product. But we cannot guarantee that, of course.

Wall Street Journal ran a story sale of Neiman Marcus, latest sign of luxury hello. The article highlighted the resilience of the consumer of luxury goods, we're happy to see that. It pleases us because we believe that is our market.

As I said before the trend in the US of expanding affluent household numbers bodes very well for the luxury end, our end of the market. As I stated earlier, we have very healthy demand during the most recent recession. And with employment and income numbers apparently growing, we're pretty optimistic about the prospects for Toll Brothers in the near future and in the long-term future. Now, Joel Rassman, our CFO would like to pass on some information. Joel?

JOEL RASSMAN, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, TOLL BROTHERS INC.: Thank you, Bob. As Bob indicated, that we will update detailed projections as part of our May 26th conference call on earnings. And, obviously, we have not closed the books yet for this quarter, but I would like to give you some observations that I think will help those who model update their quarterly projections.

There are a couple of traditional relationships between revenues and cost as a percentage of revenues. Since many SG&A costs and only tend to be fixed costs as revenues decrease, SG&A as a percentage increases or vice versa.

Since homebuilding revenues for the second quarter were at the low end of the range, it would suggest that SG&A as a percentage of revenues would be at the high-end of our range.

For information purposes, the guidance we previously gave you was that SG&A as a percentage of revenues for the second quarter would be between 9.75% and 10% although cost of sales, as a percentage of revenues is most dependent on mix. There is an impact on job overheads per home, which is a component of cost of sales, as a number of closings increases or decreases.

Again, since revenues were at the low end of the range, we would expect that there would be a small increase in the job overhead components at cost of sales. The average price of signed contracts this quarter was approximately \$693,000 per home.

This increase in sales price over the first quarter was attributable to price increases and a slightly more expensive mix of home is put into contract than we expected.

There were two other factors I think that are important for those who model quarterly that would be helpful for the

second quarter. During the second quarter, we bought back approximately 406,000 shares at about \$75 a share.

And the average outstanding shares for the quarter for earnings per share calculations, notwithstanding the share price volatility and a stock buyback, will be approximately 84.7 million shares, which is very close to the 84.8 million shares guidance we previously gave you.

At this point, I would like to give it back to Bob to open it up for questions.

ROBERT TOLL: Thank you, Joel. Patty?

OPERATOR: Thank you. [Operator instructions] Our first question today is from Margaret Whelan from UBS.

MARGARET WHELAN, ANALYST, UBS: Hello. How are you?

ROBERT TOLL: Good.

MARGARET WHELAN: Could you give us a little more detail in terms of the communities your opening relative to demand that you are trying to slow, and how those cost (indiscernible)?

ROBERT TOLL: I have not got that. The communities we are opening we are not just opened. If you guys got that? Can you repeat it, Margaret?

MARGARET WHELAN: I'm trying to understand a little better you used deliberately slowing 1000 time down could you drop this 11 month backlog? I do not understand how you opened communities relative to that. You figured out after?

ROBERT TOLL: It is a different community. What we're saying Margaret is that when we reach 12 months backlog in a community, we stopped selling homes until we have produced a month's worth, and then we open up sales again when it is an 11 month backlog and fell back up to 12 months.

That is a separate thought from opening additional communities. We are continuing opening as many additional communities as we can. We don't hold the community from the market from an exception once it is in operation, we may close the sales effort for a month, but we never stop the community from coming to market.

As fast as we can get through the entitlements, anywhere from a year and half to 10 years depending upon the certain stage that we are in, we bring it to market. Does that help you?

MARGARET WHELAN: When you said the gross margin might seem little lighter, SG&A would be lighter relative to your units, but when the gross margin might be little lighter its absorbing costs in those communities that maybe viewed weighted it would not be?

ROBERT TOLL: No, I do not understand that. I am sorry I didn't make it clear. I give you ranges of gross profits for the quarter. What I am saying is because we delivered some less revenues in a particular communities, we would have had less houses absorbing the overhead in that quarter.

Therefore, there was be a very small increase in cost of sales. I'm not suggesting we are at the bottom end of the top end of the sales rate. Whatever numbers we have given you would have a little more revenues for the quarter and therefore little less components of job overhead for the quarter for those particular closings.

MARGARET WHELAN: I got it. Thank you very much.

OPERATOR: Our next question is from Dan Oppenheim from Banc of America Securities.

DAN OPPENHEIM, ANALYST, BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES: Thanks very much, just I want to talk through the recent quarter trends and that prices increase significantly orders and you recently talked about how deliveries in 2006 will likely be a higher density mix but more cash product until less I would expect to see less appreciation there.

How much would you expect to see those prices to trend down or relatively flat in the third and fourth quarters, or is this more demand of the higher price that will continue here?

JOEL RASSMAN: I do not think we said that we would be more high-density product, we said we have smaller product that has opened up this year and will affect deliveries for next year.

Even though in each individual community, we would expect to see price increases. The mix for next year will be such that we will not see the significant price increase year-over-year that we saw from 2004 to 2005.

We still believe that could be the case, but we will have more precise guidance in the May 26 call. We're in the process now of updating, which we do at the beginning of each quarter, roughly a 10th of the month, which is today and we will have extended next week.

DAN OPPENHEIM: Great and then just wondering about the deliveries for those flight delays. Should we assume that most relates to second quarter edges to the third and there is no push back from the third but just we have little bit actually hitting the third quarter?

JOEL RASSMAN: We're looking into all the delays in making sure. I would guess that those activities go back ones that did not close in the second quarter will close in the third quarter. I do not know if you had of weather delay would push it back something into third quarter to fourth quarter, but we expect by the end of the fourth quarter.

DAN OPPENHEIM: Thank you very much.

ROBERT TOLL: This is Bob, With regard to the price movements for the various product, the smaller product, the high-density product does move up in price for us because when the luxury builder of the smaller, more dense product, as well.

That product moves up for us as much as the single family, a large lot, detached. We did the same percentage increases in price appreciation whether it is high-density, small product or whether product in general.

OPERATOR: We will take a question from Lorraine Maikis from Merrill Lynch.

LORRAINE MAIKIS, ANALYST, MERRILL LYNCH: Thank you, just want to develop on some of the comments you made about California. Are you sold out of all of your communities in California?

ROBERT TOLL: No, we are not sold out of all of our communities, but we sold out of a couple of them. Do you have a count, Joel?

JOEL RASSMAN: We closed three communities net for the quarter of roughly and would expect that there will be a little bit more close in and very low inventory in a couple of addition of communities.

But that by the start of next year, we should have community counts equal to roughly where we were at the beginning of this year, which is roughly 18 or 19 communities.

LORRAINE MAIKIS: Okay and then we were a little bit surprised for you wouldn't have pulled those communities out a little bit longer by raising prices a bit more. Could you just talk about the strategy and selling those out quicker than you expected rather than raising prices?

JOEL RASSMAN: It is not that we sold them out quicker than we had expected to budget. We sold those exactly as we had planned to do. What we did not do was bring on replacement communities as fast as we thought we would. We were held up in the entitlement process for longer than we thought we would be.

We would not slow down the sails of the community to keep people busy because we did not have replacements. Those two are, in our opinion, are not connected, because we have other places to take our good people to.

As the company continues to expand, if you recall those numbers that I just read to you, there were some 50's, and 30's, and 40's, second quarter backlog rose 57%. Second quarter revenues rose 51%. You get the point I am making. We have plenty of work for the good people.

So, all we were saying was that in California, the reason the numbers were as they were was because we did not have the additional communities coming on at the same time that the older communities were going off. Does that help?

LORRAINE MAIKIS: That does help, thanks. Was there a specific reason that the community openings were delayed or just a normal slow growth no growth issue?

JOEL RASSMAN: You entered it as well as I could have. It is insane out there, as they say. On the other hand, it is actually good for us. It further increases the demographic imbalance, the supply and demand imbalance that we have been talking about for several years now.

I am afraid that this will continue throughout the United States until we finally reached the position that Europe and the UK have reached, out balance supplied demand. And because of that, the huge price for our home compared to the annual income of a family and the drop in square footage for the average person in their housing compared to what they

get in the US.

LORRAINE MAIKIS: Thank you.

OPERATOR: We will go next to Myron Kaplan with Kaplan Nathan & Co.

MYRON KAPLAN, ANALYST, KAPLAN NATHAN & CO: Strong trend.

JOEL RASSMAN: Thank you.

MYRON KAPLAN: This California issue seems to be attracting a lot of attention. I would like to ask if you could elaborate on the production and supply situation. Are there construction bottlenecks that are appearing after all you have greatly increased your volume?

JOEL RASSMAN: I do not see that all. California has expansion but pretty overwhelming production capabilities. We can get built on time pretty much anything that we want to in California.

The problem is totally restricted to one of the entitlement supply, not of production. We do not wait for concrete or lumber. We are constrained in Arizona by production capability.

There's not enough subcontractors in Arizona to build everything as fast as all of the major homebuilding companies would want it to be built. But I do not think that condition exists in California.

MYRON KAPLAN: How about the number of the other national homebuilding companies have greatly expanded in their operations in Florida, particularly on the west coast. How about there? Or they are starting to appear production bottlenecks since again everyone needs to concrete in the same trades and so forth?

JOEL RASSMAN: Yes, I think so. We do see some constraint in production capability on the west coast of Florida. You are right. It is not that meaningful yet. There were a lot of manpower drawn off by the hurricane season in Florida. A lot of people became fix it up people instead of new homebuilding guys and girls.

Whether we see a reversion back to the mean of subcontracting power or not, I do not know. I suspect not. And I think we will scramble until the market catches up. Surely it will catch up in Arizona and it will catch up in Florida as well. Rules of supply and demand will take over.

We will see a natural migration, especially the immigrants to these areas where they can make more money and work for longer hours. I do think there is still some constraint in production in the west coast of Florida.

MYRON KAPLAN: So, trade wages probably will continue to rise there, to draw a larger pool of workers?

JOEL RASSMAN: I will pay more.

MYRON KAPLAN: Well, it is a marvelous trend. Hopefully it continues.

JOEL RASSMAN: It is a good problem to have.

MYRON KAPLAN: Thank you.

OPERATOR: We will take a question from Carl Reichardt from Wachovia Securities.

CARL REICHARDT, ANALYST, WACHOVIA SECURITIES: On the final building inspections and the new code, where was that and how many homes got pushed out of Q2?

ROBERT TOLL: I had a piece of paper just in case I got one of the smart questions. Inspections amounted to 32 homes, and it was primarily in the Virginian Maryland area.

Also, we ran into this in Las Vegas. I have not heard if that was more than one county, and I do not have the name of the county, unfortunately.

CARL REICHARDT: You mentioned in the release most markets are seeing a tract of land buying. Are there any places where land has become suddenly over the last quarter to unattractive in markets that you occupy currently?

ROBERT TOLL: Not over the last quarter to. If it was an attractive for the year and half for us in Southern California. We looked but could not find the deal that we wanted.

There were plenty of deals, but in light of the market I think we've—I should say I was too tight. I wish I had paid up.

But when the music plays, there's always a chair to sit down on. I am not going to ease our standards.

We're going to stick to our models. We're going to expand with the opportunities compared to the risks.

CARL REICHARDT: Other than Southern California, that is primarily where you felt that, nowhere else, really?

ROBERT TOLL: For getting any market?

JOEL RASSMAN: At New Jersey.

ROBERT TOLL: In the Princeton area. I forgot to mention that one.

CARL REICHARDT: That is the inspection issue?

ROBERT TOLL: That was as local as it can get. It is not worth going through detail except to say in this particular township, we had a ten-year approval process. We went to the Supreme Court of New Jersey, I would never alleged that it was gone for anything other than with generate building inspector reasons.

CARL REICHARDT: Thank you Bob.

ROBERT TOLL: We have a question here from the Internet Paddy from Michael McGregor. Who says, since the Washington, D.C., market is one of your largest markets—that is halfway through. I think it is our largest market.

Can you provide some detail on the region? I can give you a general statement which is the market is fabulous, strong, and we enjoy it, it enjoys us. It is just a great, great place to operate.

We have been able to find quite a bit of land to even increase our land backlog that has not been used yet. It is a great market and we look forward to continue to enjoy it for many years to come.

OPERATOR: We will go next to Michael Rehaut from JP Morgan.

MICHAEL REHAUT, ANALYST, JP MORGAN: One quick point of clarification on California. Just want to make sure you said you expect communities to get back to the level, net communities, by the end of fiscal 2005.

ROBERT TOLL: 2006.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Say that again?

ROBERT TOLL: Beginning of 2006. Excuse me, and Dole says the beginning of 2006, I believe I said the end of 2006. He says the beginning and he is the CFO, the keeper of numbers. I just have general impressions.

MICHAEL REHAUT: The beginning is better than the end.

ROBERT TOLL: What can I tell you.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Can we infer from that that order trends for the last couple of quarters of the year would also be down year-over-year?

ROBERT TOLL: Hearing myself speakers as you did, it would seem so for California.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Second question, on pricing—could you give us an idea in the different regions if there is any type of—any one region that stands out more in terms of mix compared to pure price? Again in the West, just tremendous gains in order ASP, if that is just all price or what type of mix might be going on there, as well?

ROBERT TOLL: I do not understand.

JOEL RASSMAN: California is a mix issues as well as a price issue. Some of the communities we sold out for the multi family communities in Northern California. So that has an impact of raising the average price. Prices go up in California. It is both of them. In the East Coast, we have some exchanges, as well. Hold on a second. We had some mix issues in Connecticut and New Jersey that affected the price.

MICHAEL REHAUT: May be the average price go down.

ROBERT TOLL: Even though the community price went up. If you want to ask a specific region, and will be glad to address it. That is basically a bit.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Just one more question. If you could give us an idea of the buyers that are coming in right now,



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the LTVs, are they in line with what you have been doing in the past? Also ARMs versus fixed, if you could give us some color there.

ROBERT TOLL: Yes sure. The LTVs are about the same. More and more buyers are going for interest only loans. Buying more home for the same payments. Apparently without regard to their old age. Because they're not paying down the mortgage, obviously.

Farms account for majority of our loans and have for a long time. We actually push them because we believe they are just a better buy for client, who on average stay in a home for five to seven years, so why take the 30 year mortgage when you can save as much as a point, going from a 30 down 25, for instance. — you could save half a point to year going from 30 down to five. We can debate whether that is a good buy or not.

They also have a special feature, which is a rate cap, where heads they win and tails we lose, or the mortgage company loses. They know they are kept out that they can float down. We have better arrangements for the arms then we do with the fixed-rate programs.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Okay, and so the used of arms is showing that majority if your loans right here that is also in line with what you've seen over the last couple of years for your own company?

ROBERT TOLL: That is right.

MICHAEL REHAUT: Thank you.

OPERATOR: We will go next to Timothy Jones from Wasserman Associates.

TIMOTHY JONES, ANALYST, WASSERMAN ASSOCIATES: Hi Bobby, for the 68,000 lots, and how much do have options? Do you look at how much of it you have zoned or un zoned or what we do look at it?

ROBERT TOLL: We can give it to always. Option guys is about

JOEL RASSMAN: We have not updated it yet, but approximately 50, but probably little less than 50% is option at this point.

TIMOTHY JONES: Wasn't it less.

ROBERT TOLL: We either just closed or will just close on a bunch on remember which way it went.

JOEL RASSMAN: So we may own 60% or 65%.

ROBERT TOLL: We may own 55%. With respect to zoned, 99% of it is zoned.

TIMOTHY JONES: Really? That did not used to be the case.

ROBERT TOLL: For about 10 years, maybe even more, it has been the case. We forget how the game had to properly characterize how the game has changed. You buy land, zone for 100. You submit a plan for 100, and the county or townships council tells you that which is I know we said 100 but we really mend 50. That is where the fun begins.

TIMOTHY JONES: Can the retroactively change that?

ROBERT TOLL: Is not retroactively changing, it is an unwillingness to perform administratively as they have legislatively. They have zoned land, 100 acres for 100 homes. You submit a plan that sketch plan for which you will spend a lot of money in engineering for a 100 homes.

The planning commission sits back and says, wouldn't be better if you had a street here, if you respect of this area and made it open space, if you have a little tot lot here. Really we would like your front yard with to be 150 feet instead of 100 feet.

They come up by the time they're done, 50 homes. It might please those who are living next door with a lot more, but it does not please us because we a people who want to buy 100 homes here and we would like to sell it to them. That is where the fun begins. You go through these negotiations and end up with about 85.

TIMOTHY JONES: How about is that what it usually is, you get about 85% of what he thought you were going to get?

ROBERT TOLL: It is an uneducated guess, but that is about where it is.

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TIMOTHY JONES: That is pretty good Bobby, that's pretty good given the not In My backyard mentality. You're just quoted in a national magazine in an article that you were concerned about the speculation in Las Vegas and Phoenix. And I of course from and also quite concerned about that. Could you expand on that?

ROBERT TOLL: Sure.

TIMOTHY JONES: Especially Phoenix, which is much bigger.

ROBERT TOLL: The Phoenix market has doubled in the last couple of years. We do not feel that much investment pressure, but we are aware that there are a lot of investors and speculators, and there's a slight difference between the two.

If the market goes backwards, there'll be a very slight difference. We are concerned to make sure that we're doing what we can do so that we do not end up with speculative investment in our communities because those people become our worst competitors. I already addressed what we're doing to keep that in check. Most of the major home building companies are also doing the same thing.

It is fairly well controlled, but to some extent we are like oil and that we are driven by the last barrel price. Even though we are keeping investment speculation out of our communities for the most part, there is Joe blow down the street was willing to sell three homes to an investor.

He feels that additional pressure, so he raises his price. Now he to come out trimester reviews, where we go out and couple with our products, the people come back with a recommendation that we should raise their prices even more than we have on demand feel basis on a push basis that we feel every week. People come back and report that he is selling their houses for 786 and we're selling hours for 752 and our home is better. Well look at one another and say, well, I guess we should raise our prices. Parallel to wear his prices are.

We hope that the project managers to have gone out to do the cost analysis say, watch out, out he has the demand which affords him the ability to raise his prices that we do not have because we're sending all of our customers that are investors and speculators away and that takes them to his door.

He feels that additional pressure raises his price, and the investor speculator that feels good in often willing to buy it. Is our project manager picking up that information? I do not know.

TIMOTHY JONES: That is a critical question.

ROBERT TOLL: There is no doubt that's there is too higher price, chanced up price in my mind, in some markets. I do not know if the Phoenix is one of those markets because we got an also lot of natural demand in Phoenix.

TIMOTHY JONES: How about Las Vegas?

ROBERT TOLL: There is no doubt that in Vegas we have speculative investment taking place on a large enough scale to impact the price. But we already cracked in Vegas once. And we were back within three months. We thought when it initially occur that it would take a year at least, and we were hunkering down for a serious dry spell. Three months, we're back in action an all-time high.

We shake our heads and say, this time itis really different. That is never the answer. But we cannot figure out we can figure an answer because we cannot figure the problem. But it will get us soon or later we will get it.

The New York area is definitely over height but again the supply of product is so thin and demand is so great, it is hard to see how it is going to get taken down.

TIMOTHY JONES: How about Naples?

ROBERT TOLL: Naples—we see so much natural demand that we're not worried about that market cracking. By Naples I'm taking you all the way up to the airport, international Southwest airport. For now all the way down in Naples we sell on allotment there. We open it up for a couple of hours every couple of weeks, so what we have available, and then closedown. This is a life to be a sales manager. How long that lasts I do not know.

TIMOTHY JONES: Thank you Bobby.

ROBERT TOLL: Your are welcome. Thank you Tim. I have a question Patty from Jurhan Jordan (ph). Are you seeing any trends in the amount of upgrades for the home as a percent of the home price?

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In other words, I think I understood that but our buyers spending more or less or the same on upgrades and they were a year go? I see that they are going up a little bit.

We have always had an awful lot of customization because we hold ourselves out to be we believe we are America's luxury home builder and that it would follow naturally from that we're more willing to customize than our competition then we believe we are and I see a slight increase but not material because it has been pretty strong for us for quite a long time. Patty?

OPERATOR: We will take a question Steve Fockens from Lehman Brothers.

STEVE FOCKENS, ANALYST, LEHMAN BROTHERS: First could you guys provide some color on the Southeast? It looks like there were up 3% year-over-year but the orders there have been really strong, so was maybe a little below what we thought. Anything in particular going on there?

JOEL RASSMAN: I just think—Bob mentioned earlier that there were some things related to the hurricane work. I think that is going to be a problem. Elongated the delivery times a little bit. We are out now in Florida 11 months or as a year ago we were probably out nine months. So I think we just need to selling out further ahead of sales has slowed down the conversion rates and backlog.

STEVE FOCKENS: So after this quarter you are probably at a point where the pace may be slowing in that part of the country?

JOEL RASSMAN: I do not know. I think you saw the trend this quarter. I think we will keep the trends we have. I do not know the answer.

ROBERT TOLL: If you don't hear from Joel between now and the next conference call—

JOEL RASSMAN: That is the southeast.

STEVE FOCKENS: And then second Bob you said you had passed on some land buying in California over the past year-and-a-half.

ROBERT TOLL: Southern California.

STEVE FOCKENS: Are you still avoiding some of that, or are you seeing deals more attractive?

ROBERT TOLL: Avoiding is the wrong word. Are we seeing some more attractive deals? Yes. That may just be the look of the draw. Perhaps our ground guys have not been as good as the other ground guys again. We have a couple of sellers come back to us that we are negotiating with now.

But, that would have nothing to do with 2006 because it takes a couple of years from the signing of an agreement to purchase the land. Even when it is owned and planned, it takes a couple of years to bring it to market. We are seeing some stuff come back data that we turn down. That is a healthy sign.

STEVE FOCKENS: Thank you very much.

OPERATOR: [Operator Instructions] We will go next to Joel Locker from Carlin Financial.

JOEL LOCKER, ANALYST, CARLIN FINANCIAL: I just wanted to check on this joint venture guidance. I remember that is about 2 million for the second quarter on the last conference call with more than 38 million coming in revenues. I was wondering if that was going to come up a little bit higher than the original 2 million.

JOEL RASSMAN: I have not updated that information yet.

ROBERT TOLL: We will get it to you that by May 26.

JOEL LOCKER: All right, thanks a lot.

ROBERT TOLL: You are welcome, having said that have we entered into any joint ventures? Yes, yes. We have taken contracts and a pretty decent clip and have the building in Hoboken that is a joint venture. We're doing better on Hilton Head. We're doing excellently. I do not know the results will come through in terms of revenues. It definitely will come through in terms of contract.

JOEL RASSMAN: That joint venture is ours.

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ROBERT TOLL: That is right. That is the best guesstimate I can give you now.

OPERATOR: Our next question will be from Gabriel Kim from Gabriel Partners (ph).

GABRIEL KIM, ANALYST, GABRIEL PARTNERS: I have some questions about Florida. When you think about the gross margins in Florida, how do they compare to the overall average for the Company?

ROBERT TOLL: They're probably a little higher, but let me take and I'm all look at that. Excuse me. — and I'll look it that. Arizona is pretty high, Palm Springs is fabulous. Arizona is fabulous too. Northern California is great. Southern California is great. We get down here to Florida. Yes, indeed.

The East Coast is—I would characterize it is terrific. The West Coast is terrific at work speed. The Jacksonville area is less than the company average. It is what we would consider healthy about four years ago. But not in these great times.

GABRIEL KIM: Okay, so then terrific and terrific at work speed means above the company average?

JOEL RASSMAN: I would suggest that is so.

ROBERT TOLL: Probably looking at contract signed.

GABRIEL KIM: Okay, Okay. When I think about the land that you are selling today, is that land that you've taken through the entitlement process, or is that just something purchased already entitled?

JOEL RASSMAN: When you say selling land—

ROBERT TOLL: You mean the land sales?

GABRIEL KIM: No, related to the home sale.

ROBERT TOLL: Who we are selling land to?

GABRIEL KIM: To the person who is buying a home.

ROBERT TOLL: When we sell a home, they get land with it.

GABRIEL KIM: Right, and that land is coming with that home, was that brought through the entitlement process by Toll Brothers or was that land to you purchased that was entitled and has appreciated over the last three years?

ROBERT TOLL: I think we are at a disconnect here. Let me ask my guys for information and then get back to you. Land sales.

ROBERT TOLL: It is not material.

JOEL RASSMAN: Who are we selling land to? There was one on the other side of the street in Chicago. There were some commercial ground. The land sales that you see are fairly immaterial to Toll Brothers. If not almost totally immaterial.

GABRIEL KIM: Right, right.

ROBERT TOLL: Now the question with respect to land sales therefore has nothing to do with our sale of homes. We do not sell land and homes separately. Some builders do. Where they have the buyer buy the land and then they sell the buyer our contract in effect to build a home on the buyer's lot, which was the builders lot. We do not do that.

You signed an agreement of sale for home and a lot on which it sits, and they're not separated. It is one price.

GABRIEL KIM: Understood. That stuff you're selling as land that you've taken through the entitlement process.

ROBERT TOLL: Yes. I would say that 90% of the land—this is a guess—but I agree about 90% of land that is under the homes that we're selling we have taken through some part of the entitlement process.

GABRIEL KIM: Okay, that's true. But what I'm trying to figure out, is there anything about Florida specifically that makes—

ROBERT TOLL: All of our land we have taken through the entitlement process. There is maybe 5% of the land in Florida that we have not taken for the entitlement process. It is not terribly material, but it could be 10%, I do not know. I am giving you a guesstimate.

GABRIEL KIM: And then just last question. The percentage of options versus owned in Florida, is it significantly different from the 50/50 that you have for the Company or is it?

ROBERT TOLL: I do not have that information in my head. I apologize. I cannot give you the answer.

GABRIEL KIM: Okay. Thank you for the details.

ROBERT TOLL: You are very welcome.

OPERATOR: We will go next to Paul Puryear from Raymond James.

ROBERT TOLL: Excuse me. The last caller, if you want that info on Florida, option versus controlled, if you call Joel Rassman and we will get you the info. Go ahead.

OPERATOR: That's okay. Paul Puryear from Raymond James your line is open.

PAUL PURYEAR, ANALYST, RAYMOND JAMES: Thank you. Good afternoon. Bob on the subject of the speculator and the impact that you might have on the marketplace, we saw track a series of data that show that the rental property market in the United States, which includes houses and condos and apartments is at an all-time high from a vacancy standpoint. Do you focus on that?

It's seems like it would have less impact to your price point, but it appears to us that it is a sort of building inventory issue for the market.

ROBERT TOLL: We track it, but not as you do. We track it empirically because there are apartments that are managed and owned by (indiscernible) and My brother and I built apartments long before we went public. So, we've got probably a couple of thousand apartments that we're keeping track of.

The market is very soft and came back within the last six months. Within the last month to if has come back even more. To a point where we of less than 5% vacancy and all of our apartments that we would consider that healthy.

We have no information and do not know how you would track it even, but it would be interesting to have, as to what vacancy exists in homes or condominiums that were bought by investors who were trying to lease to the public and have met with less than great success, creating a good overhang the market. That would be useful to have that info, but I do not have it.

PAUL PURYEAR: Very good. Thanks.

ROBERT TOLL: You are welcome.

OPERATOR: We'll go next to Stephen East (ph) Susquehanna Group.

STEPHEN EAST, ANALYST, SUSQUEHANNA GROUP: Hi. Good afternoon guys. You talked about the attractive land values and land opportunities. If you look at the land appreciation from last year in your major markets, what are you seeing magnitude ways?

ROBERT TOLL: I have not got that answer for you. Pretty much as our margins increase, so has the land increased because matter of fact even more than the increase in margins because some of our margin is eaten by the increased price to the subs and for the material.

Assuming that half of the margin was banged out with the subs and material suppliers, you could probably take the increase in margin from last year to this year and double its and that is probably the increase from land. That is all I guess, by the way. It is as fast away as I can't figure out to guesstimate.

STEPHEN EAST: Just looking year-over-year, are you saying that the consumers will accept that price increase or are you having to go more density, generally speaking, year-over-year?

ROBERT TOLL: We do not increase prices other than on rare case where I said after a project review we discover that we are below the market that immediately surrounds, which is rare occurrence but does happen from time to time. We do not increase prices on empirical basis.

We are increasing prices every Monday morning on the information we received Sunday night, and confirmed Monday morning, which is the result of the weekly sales. We get a report for every community, which shows us how many agreements of sale were signed. Those are approximately 7% deposits.

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So, that's the real deal. How many deposits, reservation deposits are received. Those are generally anywhere from \$1,000 to \$5,000 that we give back, if you change your mind. They're not real deal, but a good precursor. And then we look at the history of deposits for the last seven additional weeks.

If we have three new deposits this week, we took three agreements, we know that last week we took three deposits, the week before took 2, the week before we took 2, and prior past to 8 and going back we took an average on 2 each weeks. The next question is, how much do we raise prices during the 8 week time period?

Somebody might say well about five weeks ago we raised prices 2%. Looking at what I just explained to you as an example we would say well time for another price increases with a record like that; we would bang in another 2%.

Unless of course, this were occurring in an area where we had easier production, less hassle from bureaucracy, and only had an eight-month backlog and had 300 homes yet to go in which case we may say, well what they hell, this is a cash cow (ph). That's only go up 1%. Unless of course, we're looking at a situation where we backlogged 11 months and we think that ordinary production is about 33 a year and that is all the bureaucracy is going to let us bring through the processes, in which case we would bang (ph) it 5%, which is to say, just shut it down in effect.

Now, sometimes that has occurred in the people the next week at 5%. Hey, we kick ourselves in it came because, we know made them (technical difficulty) prior pricing and being restate ourselves, we do not want to end up like Wile E. Coyote (ph) and going off that cliff and falling down into the canyon.

So, let's instead of raising prices, shut down the community, go to non-binding reservations where give us your interest give us a \$5,000 check as well, to substantiate your interest we join at we will return if it nothing happens. But we want to wait, go backup, come to market again to make sure that we're not translating (ph) excitement for our own particular community into a price increase and all of a sudden we will stop. I mentioned barrels of oil.

But, I say that I got follow through in that I believe really I meant to say was the last barrel of oil (technical difficulty) all-time comment goes for 51 bucks a barrel. Well, all of the barrels are going for \$51.

So, the price of oil is set by who wants to pay the most any particular day for what is a realistic buy for barrels of oil. And homes to some (technical Difficulty) you know the home debt to the market has to pay for what the people are willing to pay at the top. Sorry for that long monologue. I apologize.

STEPHEN EAST: That is all right. Just one last question, you know last controlled increased 17% 18%. Is that a rate that we should expect over the next few years?

ROBERT TOLL: I would like to say I hope so. We want to increase at a minimum of 15%. That is our minimum goals for growth. But it seems to me was that is more than the usual increase that we have had.

So, I do not know how to translate that back into the 15%. Some years we find a lot of deals and we go up even more and some years it is been ticking because we're not going to buy later models, which are return on investment after interest calculations and what we call our contributions to G&A to put in your terms, just profit.

STEPHEN EAST: Okay, thanks a lot.

OPERATOR: And our final question will be from Ivy Zelman CS First Boston.

IVY ZELMAN, ANALYST, CS FIRST BOSTON: Hi guys, this is just to be on driving.

ROBERT TOLL: I was hoping to hear a female.

IVY ZELMAN: Well I'm doing my best here. A couple of questions one was in your order count per community it's really been trending up here lately. I did not know if there is anything other than market fundamentals that's driving that number higher? Is that higher density product? Are you guys changing the definition of the way you are counting for communities? What's going on that?

ROBERT TOLL: We have a mix changes and gone out for a couple of years which is more mix of plans more (indiscernible) to that out and recently more a multifamily. And you saw that in some of the average sales prices it's moving down at a couple of regions.

And, in general, net to plan after that all is a multi-family community sell at higher cases per community. So that's the trend we are seeing.

IVY ZELMAN: Okay. And then you mentioned that -

ROBERT TOLL: I want to add that I think that even without that, I think you would still see a higher trend whether it can keep on going up or not I doubt because it depends very much in production. But you are seeing an industry that is pretty much flat out in my opinion. That is why you see the increase.

IVY ZELMAN: Okay thank you for that. On the land buying, you mentioned that Southern California was unattractive in the last three quarters. Was that as a result of-?

ROBERT TOLL: What I'd wanted to make sure that what you are seeing in that is just for our company. We're not the market. We do, as well as we can, but some other guy might be swifter, faster, smarter, or picked up more dirt and our guys—

IVY ZELMAN: I was just trying to quantify at — I did not know if it was unattractive because order trends were sluggish there for the pricing?

ROBERT TOLL: No, no, it was only an attractive because the prices that we thought and we were wrong were too much. You know, a guy asked for a 300,000 a lot you still want houses for 600,000 you turn it down. Some guys turned it up and they found themselves selling houses for 700,000 in which case, they were right. But you have got to be banking on inflation.

And I have been wrong now not the bank on that for the last 14 years actually for the last 4 years, that I know men will like to do that's when the music stops. They're waiting for me. You have that feeling, too, I am sure, sometimes.

Last question is in regard to the AARM given that you had an exact number but we could use for the quarter this year versus last year financial summary?

JOEL RASSMAN: 34% of our buyers closed on units with the interest only loans this quarter versus the previous quarter was 27% and well of last year was 31%.

IVY ZELMAN: It's a little bit higher but not materialized.

JOEL RASSMAN: interest only what I thought yes. And we were 57% of the homes that closed this quarter was AARMs compared to the first quarter of 74% and last year 71%.

ROBERT TOLL: Yes Joe, we add those to stat up, you get almost a 100%.

JOEL RASSMAN: The AARM includes interest only.

ROBERT TOLL: The AARM include the interest only as well within it

IVY ZELMAN: Okay. Thanks very much

ROBERT TOLL: You are very welcome.

OPERATOR: Yes we do have one follow-up question from Margaret Whelan from UBS.

MARGARET WHELAN: What happened to the short conference call?

ROBERT TOLL: I do not know. We blew it. We really ended this 11 minutes ago, but it beats work.

MARGARET WHELAN: I thought I only got one question, some a follow-up is, give me a sense of what land you are developing now compared to five years ago.

ROBERT TOLL: The land we're developing ourselves compared to five years ago? About the same, which is pretty close to 100%.

MARGARET WHELAN: You are developing yourself?

ROBERT TOLL: Yes. It is a natural for us, Margaret, because we came out of the Philadelphia Suburban county region. Going back forever, there were never developers here and there were I did not know who it was. So builders in the Philadelphia suburbs always develop their own land. That is pretty much true in New Jersey and New York, Connecticut, and the rest of New England.

You did not run into developers until you get down to Washington, DC. But we hope there are still some there are

pretty much they have been replaced.

We have taken that still everywhere that we go and develop our own land. Maybe there 2% or 3% that we are not developing, but for the most part we do our own development.

MARGARET WHELAN: Okay, would you expect that to continue?

ROBERT TOLL: Yes, very much so. That is where the extra margin lies. That is where the extra profit is.

MARGARET WHELAN: Give the sense of what percent that profit is?

ROBERT TOLL: No, I do not. We have not broken apart. I can give you an answer but you could figure out yourself, which is those guys who by develop lots from the master developers in the West sometimes are limited to making anywhere from 6% to 8% and then the developer works out something where he says if you get lucky and make more, give it to me.

MARGARET WHELAN: That what, I know. They also lower price point.

ROBERT TOLL: I'm sorry? You're on a cell phone.

MARGARET WHELAN: I'm at the airport, sorry.

ROBERT TOLL: We cannot hear you anymore.

MARGARET WHELAN: Thank you.

ROBERT TOLL: Thank you very much. Patty, thank you.

OPERATOR: That does conclude our question and answer session. I would like to turn the call back over to Mr. Robert Toll for any additional or closing remarks.

ROBERT TOLL: Thank you everybody very much for bearing with us. Good afternoon.

OPERATOR: That does conclude today's conference call. Thank you for your participation. You may now disconnect.

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BODY:

Garner and Affleck expecting, E! News says

Is Jennifer Garner taking on a new role as mother?

The Alias star and boyfriend Ben Affleck are expecting their first child in November, according to E! News.

Garner's publicist, Nicole King, didn't immediately return a call from The Associated Press on Monday. Affleck's representative, Ken Sunshine, declined to comment.

There was speculation last month that Garner and Affleck are engaged, though neither star has confirmed those reports. The couple met while shooting the action flick Daredevil but didn't begin dating until 2004.

— The Associated Press

Elvis is everywhere

In a hunka hunka burnin' synergy, outgoing KTVT/Channel 11 anchor Jody Dean, who's also the incoming KLUV/98.7 FM morning DJ, will get his Elvis on tonight, doing an impersonation of the King during an event at 7 at the Hard Rock Cafe, 2601 McKinney Ave. in Dallas. Elvis impersonator Kraig Parker will coach Dean, who will join Parker and his band onstage (note: Any Elvis should be worried about anyone named Parker). CBS-11, of course, is airing the Elvis miniseries, which explains how this happened. Dean's job switch involves going to an oldies — excuse us, music of the '60s and '70s — station, which also helps explain the Elvis shenanigans. And CBS-11 and KLUV are both under the Viacom umbrella, which explains everything else. Dean will take over the morning mike when Ron Chapman retires, in late June; he'll do double duty till September as co-anchor of CBS-11's 4 p.m. newscast.

Newsmakers

\* The only car Pope John Paul II is believed to have owned is up for auction again. Illinois businessman Jim Rich bought the light-blue 1975 Ford Escort GL at auction in 1996 for \$102,000. Now, Rich said he expects the car to fetch \$1.5 million to \$5 million.

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\* ABC has elevated Robin Roberts, 44, to anchor status with Charles Gibson and Diane Sawyer on Good Morning America. The former college basketball star and ESPN personality has read the news headlines on Good Morning America since 2002.

\* Historian Ron Chernow received the inaugural \$50,000 George Washington Book Prize, the nation's largest literary prize for early American history, for his biography Alexander Hamilton.

\* Comedian Dave Chappelle, who in the summer signed a deal with Comedy Central reportedly worth \$50 million for a third and fourth season of Chappelle's Show, is exhausted, reportedly because of tension, partying and creative differences with the network. The show's production has been halted.

#### Spears likes it crazy

Singer Britney Spears, 23, is enjoying her pregnancy. "Eating for two is so much fun; I get to eat lots and lots!" she says on her Web site. About her reality series, debuting May 17, she says: "Doing a documentary series seemed like the last thing I would do. And putting ourselves out there seemed crazy, but that is exactly when I realized I should do it. The craziest things I've ever done have always been for the best." Including that crazy 55-hour marriage in Vegas to an old high school chum?

#### Verbal assault

As of Monday, the world still existed and our nation abided — even though Saturday Night Live musical guest Daron Malakian, who was fronting his band, System of a Down, dropped the f-bomb on the nation. His exclamation was broadcast live and unbleeped at the end of the band's rendition of B.Y.O.B., which has that word in its lyrics. No comment yet from the Federal Communications Commission or NBC.

#### Jolie visits refugees

Totally ignoring her rightful role as national titillater and alleged Brad Pitt g.f., Angelina Jolie visited refugees in Pakistan late last week, issuing a plea over the weekend. "I ask the international community to do more to fund and to help shoulder the burden of this part of the world." The U.N. goodwill ambassador also stressed the need for development in post-Taliban Afghanistan so that the 3 million refugees, some of whom have been in Pakistan for more than 25 years, can go home and build new lives.

#### Harry's battle

Rebellious he may have been, but Prince Charles' younger son, 20-year-old Prince Harry, has joined the British army. On Sunday, Harry's dad dropped him off at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in southern England to begin a 44-week officer-training course. Harry, who will be known as Officer Cadet Wales, offered a gung-ho statement: "I am really excited. I want to get on with it and do the best job I can do."

#### Celebrity birthdays

Sportscaster Pat Summerall is 75. TV's Gary Owens is 66.

Director Jim Abrahams is 61. Singers Donovan and Dave Mason are 59. Bono (U2) is 45. Model Linda Evangelista and Krist Novoselic (Nirvana, Eyes Adrift) are 40. Rapper Young MC is 38.

Notable death on this date

1977 Actress Joan Crawford dies at 69.

SAY ANYTHING

"The future will be the past catching up to you. Avoid it. If you can't avoid it, deny, deny, deny."

— Country singer and actor Dwight Yoakam in his commencement address Saturday at Ohio Valley College in Vienna, W.Va.

—PHOTO—

1. Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS ARCHIVES  
Jennifer Garner and Ben Affleck

2. Photo:  
Dwight Yoakam

3. Photo: ABACA PRESS/NICOLAS KHAYAT  
Production of Dave Chappelle's show has been halted.

4. head shot:  
(Jody) DEAN

5. head shot:  
PRINCE HARRY

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Copyright 2005 Knight Ridder/Tribune Business News  
Copyright 2005 Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal  
Las Vegas (Nev.) Review-Journal

May 10, 2005, Tuesday

**KR-ACC-NO:** LV-WYNN-DOWNGRADE-20050510**LENGTH:** 737 words**HEADLINE:** Investment firm lowers rating on Wynn Resorts**BYLINE:** By Rod Smith**BODY:**

Goldman Sachs Group on Monday downgraded its rating on Wynn Resorts Ltd., citing jitters about the gaming industry in general and the owner of the Strip's latest megaresort in particular.

"From a coverage standpoint, this is our least-favorite industry and we want to reduce our exposure to (the gaming) sector," Goldman Sachs gaming analyst Steve Kent said in an investor advisory that lowered the company's rating on Wynn Resorts stock to "in line" from "outperform."

Kent declined to explain his concerns about the gaming industry.

The Wynn Resorts downgrade didn't seem to dampen the day for Las Vegas-based casino operator stocks — eight of 10 local companies posted gains; just two fell. The Dow Jones U.S. gaming index also advanced slightly on Monday, closing at 456.24, up 0.17 points, or 0.04 percent

Brian Gordon, a partner in Applied Analysis, a Las Vegas-based financial consulting firm, said the gaming market has been as hot as any in the country for at least 12 months, and "expecting that trend to continue was unrealistic."

Recent concerns about the economy and a possible slowdown are driving investors away from leisure-related stock investments, he said.

"Potential consumers of the Las Vegas gaming product are national and international visitors and their economic condition is going to impact the sector directly," Gordon said.

Kent said that because of the mixed messages out of Macau, such as decelerating monthly trends and unimpressive Las Vegas Sands results, Goldman Sachs wants to reduce its exposure to the more "speculative" companies in the gaming industry, such as Wynn Resorts.

However, Deutsche Bank analyst Marc Falcone said it is difficult to find a business with stronger consumer fundamentals than gaming.

"Overall, we believe the gaming industry is in this environment where people are concerned about the economic climate, oil prices and slowing growth, but the gaming industry is more resistant than others to those fears," he said.

Susquehanna Financial Group gaming analyst Eric Hausler said Las Vegas continues to be a strong market, and a number of companies, especially slot manufacturers whose stocks have been tumbling, remain good investments.

"As long as Las Vegas is doing well, values should hold up. If Vegas slacks off, stocks may go down," he said.

Kent said Goldman Sachs' earlier rating on Wynn Resorts shares was based on factors such as the April 28 opening of the \$2.7 billion Wynn Las Vegas resort; the announcement of Encore, the second phase of the project; and the release of Macau gaming data that has already been discounted by the stock market.

Now, however, he said Wynn Resorts represents one of the more "speculative" companies in the group.

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Wynn Resorts has yet to start construction on Encore, complete construction on its Macau development or be selected to build a casino in Singapore. Wynn Las Vegas is the only element in the company's plan that is generating revenue, cash flow or profits.

In addition, since it just opened last month, there are no market data on the company's long-term profitability.

Shares in Wynn Resorts peaked in mid-March at \$76.45, up 99.9 percent from \$38.25 a year earlier and up 123.7 percent from its 52-week low of \$34.18 on Aug. 16.

Wynn Resorts closed Monday at \$47.61, down 81 cents, or 1.67 percent, on 4.2 million shares, double normal trading volume. Wynn Resorts' share price is down 37.7 percent from its all-time high two months ago.

"With the increased interest and hype associated with the opening of a major resort of this magnitude, Wall Street interest tends to peak ahead of the opening," Gordon said.

Falcone took issue with concerns about Wynn Resorts.

"You'd be hard-pressed to find a company that will ramp cash flow up any faster than these guys," he said. "Long-term, investors are going to be significantly rewarded by investing in Wynn Resorts, with Macau, Encore and the golf course redevelopment coming online."

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Las Vegas Review-Journal (Nevada)

May 10, 2005 Tuesday FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** C; Pg. 7C

**LENGTH:** 434 words

**HEADLINE:** REGIONAL SOFTBALL: Silverado's regional streak at stake against tough foes

**BYLINE:** Damon Seiders

**BODY:**

Silverado softball coach Steve Hodges had a scare last week when star pitcher Kelly Griego went down with an injury to her left leg.

Now that it looks like Griego will play for the Skyhawks in the Sunrise Regional, it's the competition that has Hodges worried.

Silverado has won 10 consecutive zone or regional crowns, but the Skyhawks figure to be tested by Coronado and Las Vegas when the tournament begins today at Stephanie Lynn Craig Park.

Silverado (22-5) plays Rancho (11-9) at 3 p.m., Las Vegas (31-8) plays Foothill (19-13) at 3 p.m., Coronado (31-6-1) plays Desert Pines (8-10) at 5 p.m. and Eldorado (15-10) plays Green Valley (11-10) at 7 p.m.

The Sunset Regional also begins today at Stephanie Lynn Craig. Cimarron-Memorial (21-8) plays Spring Valley (13-11) at 3 p.m., Palo Verde (19-9) plays Bonanza (18-8) at 5 p.m., Centennial (15-12) plays Clark (19-10) at 5 p.m. and Shadow Ridge (12-6) plays Sierra Vista (25-11) at 7 p.m.

Both double-elimination tournaments run through Friday.

Hodges thinks his squad, Coronado and Las Vegas are the area's top three teams, so he's expecting a difficult road to the title.

'You look at us, you look at Coronado, you look at Vegas — nobody had any prolonged losing streaks,' Hodges said. 'We played consistently. Over on that other side, they just beat each other up.'

Hodges is especially concerned about Coronado, a team that defeated the Skyhawks 2-0 earlier in the season.

'They're as good a team as there is in the state,' Hodges said. 'There is absolutely no doubt about that. They're terrific kids, they don't make defensive mistakes and they don't give games away.'

'It's fun to watch them play if it wasn't me having to play them.'

The Sunset tournament figures to be hotly contested, with no clear favorite. Cimarron (Northwest) and Bonanza (Southwest) won their respective divisions, but neither team really separated itself from the rest of the field. Cimarron stumbled down the stretch, losing its final two games.

Bonanza faces a difficult task in the opening round against a Palo Verde team that was near the top of the rankings to begin the season. The Panthers feature one of the state's top pitchers in Lindsey Callaway.

'When Palo Verde's the fourth seed, that's a tough matchup,' Cimarron coach Joe Sarro said. 'The Northwest is a real tough division. One through four can easily beat anybody.'

The regional winners advance to next week's state tournament. The second place teams from the Sunrise and Sunset will face each other at 10 a.m. Saturday, with the winner earning the final berth at state.

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The Miami Herald

May 10, 2005 Tuesday F1 EDITION

SECTION: C; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 638 words

**HEADLINE: CIRCUS MAXIMUS;  
MIAMI BEACH AND CIRQUE DU SOLEIL ARE IN TALKS TO BRING THE SURREAL SHOW TO SOUTH  
BEACH PERMANENTLY;  
ENTERTAINMENT**

**BYLINE: BY DOUGLAS HANKS III; dhanks@herald.com**

**BODY:**

Miami Beach has begun talks with Cirque du Soleil to bring the whimsical human circus to South Beach permanently, officials confirmed Monday.

The deal under consideration would establish a "resident" Cirque du Soleil show at the city-owned Jackie Gleason Theater for most of the year, as the Montreal-based entertainment company has already done in Las Vegas and Orlando. The Gleason would be gutted and rebuilt to accommodate the elaborate and highly technical Cirque shows, officials said.

Such an arrangement would bring an internationally renowned act to Miami Beach and give the city-owned Gleason a new life before the Performing Arts Center opens in Miami and takes

away much of the theater's line-up.

It would also test South Florida's ability to turn out an audience large enough to support a show currently housed only in Vegas and Orlando, two of the country's largest magnets for both tourists and conventioners.

said he's waiting for show executives to present him with a proposal for the Gleason, including how the 2,700-seat theater off South Beach's 17th Street could be reworked to house Cirque performances.

"We don't know all the specifics," Gonzalez said. "Is it even . . . conceptually feasible?"

He said he asked Cirque to consider how a \$55 million ballroom planned for the adjoining Miami Beach Convention Center might be built at the same time. Gonzalez said financial details — including who would pay for the renovations — have not been decided.

Cirque executives approached Miami Beach while scouting locations for a new venue, Gonzalez said. Along with regular tours — a traveling Cirque show last made a monthlong stop in Miami's Bicentennial Park in January 2004 — the company runs four Vegas theaters and one in Orlando. Last month it announced plans for a sixth permanent venue, in Tokyo's Disney Resort.

Tokyo would get a new Cirque show — currently, there are nine distinct versions — as would Miami Beach.

"They're creating a brand new show," Gonzalez said. He said Cirque executives discussed a performance with a local feel — "kind of a South Beach, Miami Beach kind of [show]. . . . Probably some Latin flavor to it, of course."

A Cirque spokeswoman cautioned against reading too much into the Miami Beach talks.

"We're prospecting many cities in many countries. There's been rumors like that in London, New York," said Renee-Claude Menard. "We do all kinds of prospective work."

Famous for its surreal stagecraft and joint-defying acrobatics, Cirque features a New Age musical score.

In a February review of Cirque's KAshow in Las Vegas, the New York Times described the Cirque formula as "two cups dazzling acrobatics and gymnastics, one cup multicultural window dressing and a smidgen of clowning."

City officials have been scrambling to replace the business the Gleason will lose next year after the scheduled opening of the Performing Arts Center. Three of the Gleason's resident attractions — the Concert Association of Florida, the Broadway series and Miami City Ballet — have signed contracts to move to the PAC for the 2006 fall season, said Doug Tober, who runs the Gleason.

That represents 40 percent of the Gleason's performances, Tober said. Already, the tax-subsidized theater runs at a loss, ending 2004 with a \$1 million deficit.

Gonzalez said developer Jorge Perez, who built some of South Beach's largest condominium towers and whose Related Group of Florida is building condominiums in Las Vegas, served as an intermediary between Cirque and Miami Beach.

Perez also attended at least one City Hall meeting this year with the two sides. Gonzalez said the city has not contemplated which developer might build a new Cirque theater. Perez and other Related executives could not be reached for comment Monday.

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Monterey County Herald

May 10, 2005 Tuesday

**SECTION:** Z\_LIFE

**LENGTH:** 567 words

**HEADLINE:** Unplugged Springsteen electrifies audience

**BYLINE:** By BRAD KAVA; San Jose Mercury News

**BODY:**

It's a rare rock 'n' roll artist who can play a solo acoustic set of more than two hours and make it feel almost as electric as when he is plugged in.

Bruce Springsteen did it at Oakland's Paramount Theatre on Thursday night, receiving thunderous ovations from a sold-out audience.

Shuffling instruments and reworking songs, he ran through a sort of lesser-known greatest-hits set, some of them set in such brilliant disguises that it took an expert to decipher what he was playing.

After starting with "My Beautiful Reward," from 1992's less-than-stellar "Lucky Town," he sang a song, accompanied only by his own harmonica, through a distorted effects processor.

It sounded like an old Muddy Waters take on "Mannish Boy," but turned out to be "Reason to Believe," from 1982's first acoustic effort, "Nebraska."

Later in the show he used the same muddy technique for that album's "Johnny 99."

He played a 12-string guitar and made it sound like an entire band on "All the Way Home" and did a call and response on "The Rising" that sounded as if two people were singing.

He reworked show-closer "The Promised Land" into something that could have been played by an ancient Mississippi Delta blues shouter, pounding on the guitar rather than strumming it.

Some highlights included emotional solo piano takes on "Racing in the Streets" and "The River"

There were a handful of new songs from "Devils & Dust" that worked perfectly in an acoustic context. And even better, songs from his last album, "The Rising," including "Further On (Up the Road)," lost no power with the power down.

How many other classic rock artists are putting out great work after 35 years of success?

Not many.

Every time out, Springsteen has distinguished himself with perfect sound systems that defy the constraints of the worst rooms. That wasn't a problem at the Paramount, but he still managed to make the sound full and rich and never too loud.

It makes you wonder why so few other artists can achieve the same satisfying results. Are they too cheap or too ignorant to spend the time and money to make live shows sound as good as recordings?

That said, Springsteen was not without his errors onstage. There were plenty of minor clunkers on the piano and harmonica, particularly odd since his three-hour-long arena shows with the large E Street Band are almost compulsively note-perfect.

But Thursday was his night to be a folkie, a la Woody Guthrie, the blemishes adding to the night's down-home reality.

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The artist, who looks far younger than his 55 years, asked the audience not to clap along, fearing it would throw off his "tenuous" sense of rhythm. He also asked them to stop clapping at the beginning of songs.

"You can eschew the clapping when you recognize a song," he said, perhaps the first rocker in history to use that word onstage. "I know it, and you've heard it before. It's kind of a hack thing. It's been done. I feel like I'm in Vegas when I hear that clapping."

He even asked them not to applaud his few political statements, such as his fear that a movie such as "Inherit the Wind," about teaching evolution, couldn't be made today in the country's conservative climate.

"No applause, please," he said. "I don't want to feel like I'm preaching to the converted."

It was almost unavoidable, though. On this night, even a Springsteen hater might have been blinded by the light.

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SHOW: Talk of the Nation 2:00 AM EST NPR

May 10, 2005 Tuesday

LENGTH: 3179 words

HEADLINE: Ricky Jay discusses the art of the con

ANCHORS: NEAL CONAN

BODY:

NEAL CONAN, host:

This is TALK OF THE NATION. I'm Neal Conan in Washington.

And here are the headlines and some of the stories we're following here today at NPR News.

Insurgents have captured the governor of Iraq's Anbar province. That's where a US military offensive is under way. The insurgents told the governor's family he will be released if US forces pull out of the area. US commanders have said they do not respond to terrorist threats.

Also today, United Airlines is expected to off load its pension plans in an effort to get out of bankruptcy. The federal government's Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation will assume responsibility for United's four pension programs. You can hear more on those stories and—later today on "All Things Considered" from NPR News.

Tomorrow, a new biography of J. Robert Oppenheimer traces the personal life and public humiliation of an iconic figure of the 20th century. Join guest host Frank Stasio for a talk with the authors about the complex history of the father of the atomic bomb. That's tomorrow on TALK OF THE NATION.

And now we turn to the world of card tricks, legerdemain and separating fools from their money. The essence of a con game is greed; not the con man's, but the mark's. Once he's convinced the fix is in, the mark plunges ahead with both hands, his judgment clouded by the dollar signs in his eyes. Author, actor and sleight-of-hand artist Ricky Jay is an expert in what happens next. He's also in Washington this month with his show called "Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants." It's a one-man tour de force of mostly card wizardry accompanied by learned patter about the history of his ancient craft, and part of his act is a dissertation on the art of the con in general and the game of three-card monte in particular. Ricky Jay is with us here in Studio 3A, and if you have questions about any of his careers, give us a call. We'd also be especially interested to hear from those of you who've played the role of the pigeon or the confidence man in a card game. Our number is (800) 989-8255, (800) 989-TALK, and our e-mail address is totn@npr.org.

Ricky Jay, welcome to TALK OF THE NATION.

Mr. RICKY JAY ("Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants"): Pleasure to be here. Thanks, Neal.

CONAN: The way you explain the three-card monte game in your show, this is about the most stripped-down version of the con game there is.

Mr. JAY: Well, it is. It's a choice of so few objects that it would seem to be pretty simple. You have three cards, and if you correctly pick one card, the designated card, usually a queen, *cherche la femme*, find the lady, a little game from hankypoo, the black for me, the red for you, 10 gets you 20, 20 gets you 40. But I mean, really, all you are doing is a two-to-one bet and you're paid if you find the queen.

CONAN: And it's a simple game, but what the mark usually doesn't know is that there's a third person participating in this game.

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Mr. JAY: Not only a third person, most monte mobs are four or five people strong, so that the reason—I guess the basic problem with most people is that they think this is a game of chance and it absolutely is not a game of chance. It is a confidence game. There's a mob involved. There are a whole bunch of people who are there to separate you from your money, and that's really the nature of it.

CONAN: You perform, show off—I think it's the most basic trick, the dealer, the monte dealer says, 'Look, I'm gonna make it even easier for you,' and he pulls back a corner of the red queen, the 'it' card, and says, 'You'll be able to find this,' and then some distraction turns him away and the shill unbends that card and bends the other one. The mark thinks it's a sure thing.

Mr. JAY: Well, actually you've got it slightly confused if you don't mind my trying to correct you.

CONAN: Oh, please.

Mr. JAY: What happens is that the monte operator is distracted, he might drop a card on the floor, and the shill bends the corner of the card, all right? The monte operator seems to know nothing about it. The shill bends up the corner of the marked card, the queen. The monte operator comes back to the game, apparently doesn't notice that the queen is marked. He might throw that card and the shill wins an incredible amount of money betting on the marked card. Now the sucker sees the mark, he bets on it, but this time when the monte operator throws the card, in an instant he takes the bend out of the queen and puts the bend in another card and the sucker loses all his money.

CONAN: And this is where human nature, judgment of human nature comes into this, because you've got to lure the mark in for the big bet.

Mr. JAY: Absolutely. What you spoke of earlier, the cupidity, the greed. That's the factor that does it. If you weren't trying to take advantage of the monte hustler, you would never have fallen for the con.

CONAN: There's another element involved, though, which you don't go into, which is the blow-off. Somebody's got to say, 'Cheese it, the fuzz,' and everybody runs in all directions.

Mr. JAY: Well, you're right. Most con games do have a blow-off, and in this case that's an easy one where the monte mob just grab their wooden box and a couple of cards and they run down the road, so...

CONAN: Where did this game get its start?

Mr. JAY: Well, we—theories differ, but they differ basically to whether it was originated in Mexico or in the United States. Certainly the period seems to be around the 1820s, the 1830s, and most people say that they do think that it came up from Mexico. But I've never seen what I thought was conclusive evidence on that, and I really have looked into the history of the game pretty carefully.

CONAN: And it's a game largely, as I understand, played in New York City?

Mr. JAY: Well, it's been played in every metropolis, including Washington, although I'm gathering it rarely is played here now. But certainly you can find it in many streets. It's most prevalent, I suppose, in New York, most associated with it, but it's moved in its areas a lot. At one point you would find it all over Times Square, at certain points even Fifth Avenue, then certainly Lower Manhattan, so it has—as soon as it's broken up, it finds a new place to relocate.

CONAN: Mm-hmm. Now this only comes on a little bit on your central area of expertise in this show, which is manipulation of cards. It's that instant moment of bending one card back and bending the other card up.

Mr. JAY: That's true.

CONAN: Yeah. It doesn't involve, oh, the enormous skill involved in what some of the things you do, dealing from the middle of the deck or—well, it seems to me there's like three basic kinds of card tricks. There's the, 'Oh wow,' kind of trick, the entertainment trick, 'Pick a card, any card,' there's the cheating at cards, dealing from the bottom of the deck, dealing from the second card, that sort of thing, and these confidence games, three-card monte.

Mr. JAY: Well, this is a taxonomy that I've never encountered before, so I have to register what you're saying and see whether I agree with that. I mean, there are many ways to divide up a pie, and what you're saying makes some sense.

CONAN: Well, we'll find out that I'm totally foolish a little bit later in the broadcast. Anyway, let's get some listeners on the line. If you'd like to talk with Ricky Jay, our number is (800) 989-8255, (800) 989-TALK, and the e-mail address

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is totm@npr.org.

And Ron is calling us from St. Paul, Minnesota.

RON (Caller): Hi. Actually I don't really have a question, I just have a story, speaking of New York City. There's a shoeshine guy who sits outside of the Newton Hotel on the Upper West Side, and when my wife and I go there for our anniversary every year, he is always asking somebody—or he's always trying to make a bet with somebody that he can tell you where you got your shoes at, and, you know, these are people who are tourists, you know. He'd have no way of knowing that I bought my shoes at Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota. So I say, 'Sure, \$20. That sounds good.' He says, 'Well, you got your shoes on Broadway. That's where they're at right now.' And I'll tell you, he got me once 10 years ago, and I've been able to tell this story at least \$20 worth for this past 20 years—or 10 years, and every time we walk by, coming or going, as you do when you visit New York City, he's always working somebody. It's just hilarious.

CONAN: And if my recollections of the Newton Hotel are accurate, it's about to fall subject to the laws of gravity and collapse in on itself. Not one of New York's more distinguished hostelries.

RON: No, no, but it's always had a good price and we've been staying there for years and years, so it's kind of tradition at this point.

CONAN: OK, Ron. Thank you very much.

Mr. JAY: As is the con you described, which...

RON: Yes, Jay.

Mr. JAY: ...has been done for many, many years.

CONAN: Many years?

Mr. JAY: Yeah.

CONAN: Yeah. Oh, it's...

Mr. JAY: I'm actually pleased to hear it's still being played.

CONAN: Let's talk with Bob. Bob's calling from Minneapolis.

BOB (Caller): Yeah. I was just gonna say that three-card monte is not restricted to the US. I watched a good friend of mine lose about 75 bucks trying to beat the game in Naples, Italy, at one point, and I've also seen it in the Far East, so it's one of our beloved American exports, I guess.

Mr. JAY: You're absolutely right. Again, it's certainly true. Yeah.

CONAN: Hmm. Bob, when you watched your friend lose this money, did you try to say, 'Wait a minute. Don't do this?'

BOB: Yeah, there were about five of us trying to say, 'Wait a minute. Don't do this.' And this crew was pretty good. He was originally planning on only putting down \$2, but when he opened his wallet and these gentlemen saw that it was full of lire and American greenbacks, they jumped all over it and were encouraging him to put down more, and I think he wound up putting down \$20 the first time and lost and decided he was gonna make it back. By the time it was all said and done he was out about 75 bucks.

CONAN: Opening your wallet, Ricky Jay, a classic rube mistake.

Mr. JAY: I would guess there are few that are sillier than that.

CONAN: Bob, thanks very much for the phone call.

BOB: Thank you.

CONAN: Let's go on. You not only perform, you're a collector of books and other elements of the craft of illusion and the stage. Some of your personal collection is being published in a new book. Tell us a little bit about that.

Mr. JAY: I'm very pleased with this. It's just coming out. It's called "Extraordinary Exhibitions," and it's a book which features broadsides, little show bills of performance artists from the 17th, 18th and 19th century that I've collected over a

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period of 25 or 30 years. There was just an exhibition of them at the Yerba Buena Center for Arts in San Francisco and we're quite sure this is gonna move on to other museums.

But what I find fascinating about it are that these pieces have survived. Many, many of the hundred pieces in the exhibition are unique, we think. I mean, certainly they're unrecorded. They start in about 1618 with the performance of a learned horse who responded to many languages and did card tricks, to an armless dulcimer player and then wind up in 1898 with Paul Cinquevalli, who is the greatest juggler in the world and who would, among other stunts, suspend a 44-pound washtub on top of a series of sticks on his shoulder that would go up about 12 feet in the air, and even though he was dressed in a leotard, he would wear a pointed German army helmet, would knock away the sticks, the washtub would drop to the top of his helmet and revolve.

CONAN: Wow. You'd pay to see that.

Mr. JAY: I would.

CONAN: Now if these are broadsides, they were printed, I guess if not on newspaper, but pretty cheap paper.

Mr. JAY: Yeah, on very cheap paper, which is one of the reasons that their survival is amazing. And yet at certain periods, you find them printed on beautiful, beautiful laid, hand-made rag paper, because that's all there was. Up until about the 1830s there is no acid-based stock. They're all printed from rag stock. So actually they have a far better chance of surviving than things that are being printed right now.

CONAN: Hmm. We're talking with author and legerdemain artist Ricky Jay. He's currently appearing here in Washington, DC, in a show called "Ricky Jay and his 52 Assistants." Well, it's a one-man show. There's some hard-working property masters and stage hands who shuffle things around behind the curtain, but the 52 assistants, of course, are a deck of cards.

You're listening to TALK OF THE NATION from NPR News.

And let's get another caller on the line, and this is Tom. Tom's with us from Charlotte, North Carolina.

TOM (Caller): Hi. How y'all doing?

CONAN: Very well, thanks.

TOM: Good. I have a friend of mine who—years ago—he's been dead for years. He was a big con man in the Southeast. His name was Clyde Biggerstaff. They called him Wide Clyde. He was 6'5, weighed almost 600 pounds. He was notorious in the Southeast. But he used to run the three-card monte game in my bar, and I was the bartender naturally, and he'd beat everybody out of most of their money and then he'd say, 'I'm going to the bathroom,' and when he did, I'd say, 'Hey, let's get this guy back, guys. Let's bend the queen.' And he was the best in the world. He'd come back, he'd act like he was drunk. He'd drink a few beers be—of course, he could drink a case of beer and it wouldn't even faze him, and then he'd come back and, you know, everybody would go for it. They'd just unload on because they knew I'd bent the queen, and they knew I wasn't in on the act, and then he'd straighten it out and take all their money. And, you know, naturally you couldn't say, 'Hey, wait a minute. We bent the queen. That can't be it.' And he'd bend the deuce and that'd be all over.

CONAN: Hmm. I assume you got a small percentage?

TOM: I was in on the cut, needless to say, yeah. He—one other thing Clyde could do that I've never seen anybody do in my life, he could tear a deck of cards in half long ways as they were stacked.

CONAN: I wonder, did you have a lot of repeat business in this bar?

TOM: Well, we moved it around—we moved around several bars. But let me ask the guy something. Has he ever seen anybody tear a deck of cards in half long ways?

Mr. JAY: I actually have, but you're right, it's much much harder.

TOM: Have you seen it? I've never seen anybody...

Mr. JAY: It's much harder to do it long ways than across the other side.

TOM: Yeah, I never have seen anybody else that could tear a deck of cards long ways.

Mr. JAY: Yeah.

TOM: The long ways, yeah.

CONAN: Is Wide Clyde new to you, Ricky Jay?

Mr. JAY: He is. I can't say that I've heard of Wide Clyde. But, you know, you have presented with an opportunity for me to explain the basis of the con in three-card monte because we really haven't discussed that. So this is why it's a con game and this is why there are a number of different people in the monte mob. Let's say that someone just deduces that it's too easy with the bent corner, and that the queen now must be one of the other two cards, and they bet their money on the card that's the right card. So they've actually won the bet at this point. The reason that monte is a confidence game is because then a shill will bet more money on the wrong card, and the operator will say, 'I have to take the biggest bet,' and he'll purposely take the wrong bet and never pay off the guy who's won. That's why it's such a devious game.

CONAN: Ahh, so that the mark can then be strung along without actually getting any more money back. He's not losing any, but he's not winning any.

Mr. JAY: Absolutely.

CONAN: Ahh. Tom...

Mr. JAY: You can't win.

CONAN: You can't win.

TOM: Yeah.

CONAN: Tom, when was the last time you did this?

TOM: I'm gonna say it was 15 years ago when we ran that scam, and I had two different bars and we used to run it at both of them.

Mr. JAY: I hope the statute of limitations has run out.

TOM: It has, and I've grown up a little bit. I wouldn't dare do that again. But it was—the guy was a very fascinating guy. In fact, they used him to consult for the movie "Flim Flam Man." You remember the movie "Flim Flam Man?"

CONAN: George C. Scott, yeah.

Mr. JAY: Yeah.

TOM: Yeah, 'cause they hired Clyde as one of the consultants to show them some scams to run.

Mr. JAY: That's funny. I remember...

TOM: He was a great...

Mr. JAY: ...there was a fellow named Jay Ose, who I thought was the consultant on that.

TOM: He was a great short-change artist, too. I mean, just—you could never figure—he could short-change, you'd never figure it out. And they'd do the whole thing, the torn 20, you know, when you go through the line, and the guy two behind him gives him a 1 and then they make change and the guy says, 'Oh, I gave you a 20,' and the guy says, 'Well, no, you gave me a 1,' and he says, 'Well, I think I even had the corner tore on it,' which the mark put in there, you know, two places in front of him, and the guy looks at the 20 and the 20 naturally laying there has got a torn corner, and he says, 'Oh, that must have been a 20.' And they ran every scam in the list. It was fascinating things back then.

CONAN: Tom, thanks very much for the call...

TOM: Yeah, thank you.

CONAN: ...and stay out of this business.

TOM: I'm out of it.

CONAN: OK.

Mr. JAY: That's one of the many versions of the short-change hustle, which con men usually call laying the note, and there are myriad varieties of that as well. It's great fun to hear about those.

National Public Radio (NPR) May 10, 2005 Tuesday

CONAN: Before we let you go, Ricky Jay, and get ready for tonight's show, we are, in fact, on the way to Las Vegas. Frank Stasio's gonna be doing the show here tomorrow, and I assume your picture is in the control room of every security center in Las Vegas, along with a few other people who know how to manipulate cards.

Mr. JAY: Well, I don't know if that—I mean, there have been times in my life where I've been asked not to play, but—in Vegas casinos, but a long time ago I decided that you couldn't make your living both playing cards and then performing as someone who demonstrated with them, so the choice for me was pretty clear.

CONAN: As young people, card manipulators come up, clearly counters in blackjack and various—is there any way—have you ever met anybody who could beat the game in Vegas?

Mr. JAY: Well, I mean, certainly card counters can make sure that at certain times the deck is in their advantage, and they bet more heavily at those times, yeah, but the casinos will do everything they can to combat that, by shuffling as often as they can, or by banning the people from playing, which I've always questioned in terms of ethics, if not legality.

CONAN: Hmm. Ricky Jay, good luck with the show tonight. Good luck with your new book.

Mr. JAY: Thanks so much.

CONAN: Ricky Jay is currently performing his show "Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants" at the Studio Theater in Washington, DC. His new book, "Extraordinary Exhibitions," comes out next month. He was kind enough to join us today in Studio 3A.

This is TALK OF THE NATION from NPR News. I'm Neal Conan.

LOAD-DATE: May 19, 2005

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Philadelphia Daily News

May 10, 2005 Tuesday 4STAR EDITION

SECTION: SPORTS; Pg. 65

LENGTH: 846 words

HEADLINE: Bernard Fernandez / Boxing writers dinner brings out stars in Vegas

BODY:

THE WIFE was straightening the tie to my rented tuxedo when I made the mistake of fishing for a compliment.

"So, what do you think?" I asked. "Cary Grant, right?"

"You look nice," my wonderful but honest Annie finally allowed. "But Cary Grant? I don't think so."

OK, so I'm never going to get a casting call for the remake

of "North by Northwest." Doesn't matter. An hour after adjusting those tricky cuff links, I was made to feel like a suave and

debonair star of the screen at the 80th annual Boxing Writers Association of America Awards Dinner, which was as close to Hollywood glitz as an ink-stained media wretch ever is going to get.

The host venue, Las Vegas' Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, literally rolled out the red

carpet for arriving guests. Fight fans were lined to the side holding out gloves and programs for the many current or former world champions to sign. None of the autograph seekers confused me for Cary Grant either, or for Bernard Hopkins for that matter, but, as president of the BWAA, I got pulled over for five television interviews. As I offered my thoughts on whatever to a microphone wielder with a blow-dried haircut, a camera crew to my left was interviewing Sugar Ray Leonard. One to my right was quizzing Don King.

At a resort that has a shark habitat, it occurred to me that I was chum in the water during a TV feeding frenzy. And I couldn't help but think that there never had been a night like this since the BWAA was founded in 1925 as the Boxing Writers Association of Greater New York.

Every year, usually in April, the BWAA convenes at a New York hotel to pass out awards to the Fighter of the Year, Manager of the Year, Trainer of the Year and so forth. It's a nice affair, reasonably well-attended, and a blip on the radar screen of the Big Apple's daily social calendar. Put it this way: The BWAA dinner isn't knocking the Yankees off the back pages of that city's tabloids.

Fourteen months ago, however, Las Vegas Review-Journal boxing writer Kevin Iole, the Western representative to the BWAA's board of directors, posed some simple questions. How come there never had been a BWAA Awards Dinner in Las Vegas, which is now the site of most

major fight cards held in this country? And shouldn't the

organization's premier event be

accessible to members from

California, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico, most of whom had never or would never make it to New York for our annual shindig?

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PC-00772

Hey, even the Army-Navy game was played in the Rose Bowl once. So I told Kevin that I would consider a BWAA road trip if (1) a host casino-hotel stepped forward; and (2) a suitable fight card could be arranged for the following night as an

anchor to our event.

Kevin soon advised me that the Mandalay Bay was willing to come aboard for May 6. Shortly after that, Showtime sports head Jay Larkin committed to providing the best fight he possibly could for the following night.

Saturday night, after Diego Corrales stopped Jose Luis Castillo in 10 rounds in a lightweight unification slugfest that became an instant classic, people still were coming up to me and saying this had been one of boxing's best weekends ever.

Hey, after 79 BWAA dinners - 76 in New York, two at Catskills resorts, one in Atlantic City - it probably was time for someone to float a test balloon in the southern Nevada desert. All I

did was to let go of the string that had kept us tethered to New York, New York.

The person most responsible for making the BWAA Awards Dinner a happening is Gordon Absher, public relations director for the Mandalay Bay. Gordon

recruited so many big names, the group shot in the boxing ring that had been set up in place of a dais was the most impressive assemblage of boxing talent in one place anyone could remember.

Anyone lucky enough to be holding a ticket - and the event sold out, which probably is a first - could look around the room and see, among others,

Leonard, Hopkins, Oscar De La Hoya, Vitali Klitschko, James Toney, Chris Byrd, Lamon

Brewster, Winky Wright, Floyd Mayweather, Hasim Rahman, Shane Mosley, Erik Morales and Zab Judah.

There were Imax screens set up to either side of the ring for video

highlights of the nominated fights and

fighters, and a snappy, tightly scripted format that the people responsible for staging the Academy Awards would be wise to emulate.

Additional kudos go to Iole, our point guy at the scene; BWAA event coordinator Gina Andriolo and BWAA vice president Jack Hirsch, who stuffed the goody bags attendees took home along with their memories.

Perhaps the most amazing

development of all is that representatives of several prospective host venues, on both sides of the country, approached me with preliminary offers to host the 2006 BWAA Awards Dinner.

Hey, so what if Clint Eastwood, Hilary Swank and Morgan Freeman, the Oscar-winning stars of "Million Dollar Baby," declined my invitation to meet and mingle with the fight folk?

The way this Cary Grant

wannabe looks at it, that was their loss, not ours.

Send e-mail to [fernanb@phillynews.com](mailto:fernanb@phillynews.com)

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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PR Newswire US

May 10, 2005 Tuesday 08:07 PM GMT

LENGTH: 1963 words

HEADLINE: PR Newswire Entertainment Summary, May 10, 2005

**BODY:**

Following is a summary of entertainment news releases transmitted today by PR Newswire. The full text of these releases is available at PR Newswire for Journalists, <http://media.prnewswire.com/>.

SFTU025 05/10/2005 00:30 r f bc-CA-iTunes-Swed-Switz  
(CUPERTINO) iTunes Music Store Launches in Denmark, Norway,  
Sweden & Switzerland

NYTU114 05/10/2005 01:13 r s bc-NC-TSN-Roush-racing  
(MOORESVILLE) Roush Racing's Number 97 Pit Crew Walks Away With Top  
Prize at National Pit Crew Championship Powered by Tyson

LATU087 05/10/2005 02:02 r f bc-NV-Las-Vegas-Sands  
(LAS VEGAS) Las Vegas Sands Corp. Joins Forces With Manchester United

LATU068 05/10/2005 05:00 r f bc-CA-Academy-of-Country  
(ORLANDO) Final Performers and Presenters Set for the 40th Annual  
Academy of Country Music Awards, Country's Night to Shine(TM)

LATU068 05/10/2005 05:00 r f bc-CA-Academy-of-Country  
Final Performers and Presenters Set for the 40th Annual Academy of  
Country Music Awards, Country's Night to Shine(TM)

FLTUFNS1 05/10/2005 05:20 r l bc-FL-Frank-Shades-Film  
(MIAMI) Freedom Flight, a Comedy Starring a Fidel Castro Character  
and Celebrated in The Latin Community, Is a Hit!

SFTU076 05/10/2005 05:30 r f bc-NY-BMG-Columbia-House  
(NEW YORK) BMG Direct to Acquire The Columbia House Company

CLTU021 05/10/2005 06:30 r f bc-CA-StJude-AmazingRace  
(LOS ANGELES) Be a Part of The Amazing Race: Charity Auction Offers Props  
From Hit CBS Show to Benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

LATU072 05/10/2005 07:03 r f bc-CA-AVP-Nature-Valley  
(LOS ANGELES) AVP and Nature Valley Granola Bars Agree to a  
Two-Year Sponsorship

SFTU084 05/10/2005 07:03 r f bc-NY-SIRIUS-J-Bufferett  
(NEW YORK) Jimmy Bufferett to Bring Radio Margaritaville

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PR Newswire US May 10, 2005 Tuesday

Exclusively to SIRIUS Satellite Radio

NYTU116 05/10/2005 07:04 r f bc-IN-Emmis-tender-offer  
(INDIANAPOLIS) Emmis Announces Intention to Commence Dutch Auction Tender Offer

NETU018 05/10/2005 07:06 r f bc-MA-Lycos-Top-50

(WALTHAM) Lycos Announces Paula Abdul Is Four Times More Popular Than Corey Clark With Web Users

LATU058 05/10/2005 07:07 r f bc-NY-Wall-Street-Netwrk  
(NEW YORK) WallSt.net Airing All-New, Exclusive Audio Interviews With CHMS, ACNI, SMPP and CIRT

CNTU002 05/10/2005 07:31 r f bc-Linktone-Repurchase  
(SHANGHAI) Linktone Board Approves Stock Repurchase Program

NYTU082 05/10/2005 07:32 r e bc-Majesco-Entertainment  
(EDISON) Majesco Entertainment Rises To The Occasion With Multi-Million Dollar Marketing Campaign For 'Advent Rising' Video Game

TO096 05/10/2005 07:43 r f bc-Lucid-Ent-restructure  
(TORONTO) Lucid Entertainment announces restructuring plans

SFTU089 05/10/2005 07:45 r e bc-NY-Borghi-Pollock-art  
(NEW YORK) Multimedia News Release - Finding Jackson Pollock

PHTU009 05/10/2005 07:48 r l bc-NY-Hank-Gans-artwrk  
(NEW YORK) Hank Gans' 'At the Water's Edge' Now at Chartwell Gallery

SFTU093 05/10/2005 07:58 r f bc-FL-Infinium-COO  
(SARASOTA) Interview With Infinium Labs President and COO Is Available at WallSt.net

NYTU138 05/10/2005 07:59 r f bc-Cent-Europ-Media-Erns  
(HAMILTON) Central European Media Enterprises Reports First Quarter Results

NYTU047 05/10/2005 08:09 r f bc-NY-Everlast-brand-pol  
(NEW YORK) Everlast Places #2 & #3 Among Companies In Brand Appearances Through First Four Months of 2005

SFTU010 05/10/2005 08:09 r f bc-CA-Market-travl-survey  
(SAN RAFAEL) Market Metrix Announces First Quarter 2005 Hospitality Index Results

DATU045 05/10/2005 08:11 r n bc-GA-Music-Midtown-ATL  
(ATLANTA) Music Midtown Reaches Out to Atlanta Community; Inspires Students, Senior Citizens and Volunteers to Share the Spirit of Music

SFTU067 05/10/2005 08:11 r f bc-CA-iriver-H10-Family  
(MILPITAS) iriver Debuts H10 Family of Portable Music Players

PR Newswire US May 10, 2005 Tuesday

LATU078 05/10/2005 08:13 r f bc-CA-Square-Enix-iTunes  
(LOS ANGELES) Square Enix Launches FINAL FANTASY(R) Soundtracks on  
iTunes(R)

NYTU115 05/10/2005 08:13 r s bc-NC-TSN-Roush-racing  
(MOORESVILLE) Roush Racing's Number 97 Pit Crew Walks Away With Top  
Prize at National Pit Crew Championship Powered by Tyson

NYTU009 05/10/2005 08:14 r e bc-NY-Playgirl-June  
(NEW YORK) Country Superstar Phil Vassar Hits the Pages of Playgirl

CNTU008 05/10/2005 08:23 r f bc-TOM-Online-Q1-ERN  
TOM Online Reports First Quarter 2005 Financial Results

SFTU034 05/10/2005 08:30 r f bc-CA-iTunes-Swed-Switz  
(CUPERTINO) iTunes Music Store Launches in Denmark, Norway,  
Sweden & Switzerland

LATU046 05/10/2005 08:31 r l bc-CA-MEIC-Black  
(LOS ANGELES) Media International Concepts, Inc. Announces  
Distribution Agreement With Black Education Network Affiliates

DATU042 05/10/2005 09:00 r e bc-TX-Nokia-NBA-game  
(IRVING) Fame and Fortune Await Winner of the Nokia NBA 2K5  
Championship Online Tournament

NYTU003 05/10/2005 09:03 r f bc-ProTee-United-at-home  
(ZALTBOMMEL) Real-Time Professional Golf Simulation Now Also Available at  
Home

DATU046 05/10/2005 09:04 r f bc-TX-Blockbuster-PSP  
(DALLAS) BLOCKBUSTER(R) Announces Sony PSP(TM) (PlayStation(R)  
Portable) Games Available for Rent in Participating Stores

PHTU011 05/10/2005 09:04 r f bc-CA-Aerielle-license  
(MOUNTAIN VIEW) Aerielle(R), Inc. Signs New License With Manufacturer From  
Asia

LATU048 05/10/2005 09:05 r f bc-CA-RDI-Q1-Earnings  
(LOS ANGELES) Reading International Announces Record First Quarter Revenue

LATU076 05/10/2005 09:15 r f bc-CA-NTN-Communications  
(CARLSBAD) NTN Communications Announces Results for First Quarter 2005

SFTU045 05/10/2005 09:25 r f bc-CA-Netflix-webcast  
(LOS GATOS) Netflix to Webcast Annual Shareholder Meeting

LATU028 05/10/2005 09:30 r f bc-CO-Sirenza-Microdevic  
(BROOMFIELD) Sirenza Microdevices Announces Volume Shipments of Direct  
Quadrature Modulators for a Major European Original Equipment Manufacturer  
(OEM)

TO099 05/10/2005 09:30 r a bc-Victoria-Tall-Ships  
(VICTORIA) Victoria Tall Ships Festival Announces Performers

NYTU148 05/10/2005 09:51 r f bc-SBS-1Q-earnings-call  
(LUXEMBOURG) SBS Broadcasting Schedules First Quarter 2005  
Earnings Release and Teleconference

DETU013 05/10/2005 09:53 r f bc-MI-TX-Audi-AFI-Austin  
(AUBURN HILLS) Filmmakers Visit Austin to Uncover Trends  
and Shoot Local Footage

NYTU020 05/10/2005 10:01 r f bc-NY-McGraw-Pearls  
(NEW YORK) McGraw-Hill Professional to Publish Pearls of  
Wisdom Medical Review Book Series

NYTU007 05/10/2005 10:02 r a bc-Polynesian-Culture  
(BETHESDA) World's Top Fireknife Dancers Compete at Hawaii's  
Polynesian Cultural Center

NYTU007 05/10/2005 10:02 r a bc-Polynesian-Culture  
World's Top Fireknife Dancers Compete at Hawaii's Polynesian Cultural  
Center

NYTU040 05/10/2005 10:02 r f bc-Alure-Home-Improve  
(EAST MEADOW) Alure Home Improvements of Long Island to Be Featured On  
'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

CLTU049 05/10/2005 10:11 r e bc-TN-WillieNelson-album  
(NASHVILLE) Willie Nelson's Long-Awaited Reggae Album 'Countryman'  
Set for Release by Lost Highway on August 2

TO111 05/10/2005 10:19 r f bc-Alliance-conf-call  
(TORONTO) Media Advisory - Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc.  
First Quarter Financial Results Conference Call

LATU089 05/10/2005 10:30 r f bc-CA-AEMG-Merger  
(LOS ANGELES) America Time East Media Group and Starwin  
Media Group Agree to Merge

SFTUV002 05/10/2005 10:59 r f bc-CA-AGEIA-TiEcon  
(MOUNTAIN VIEW) AGEIA Technologies Chosen as 'Emerging Star' at TiEcon  
2005 - The World's Largest Conference for Entrepreneurs

SFTU028 05/10/2005 11:00 r f bc-CA-Plantronics-Stevie  
(SANTA CRUZ) Plantronics Named Finalist in 2005 American Business  
Awards(SM)

PHTU027 05/10/2005 11:01 r a bc-DC-Turcel-Uniting-evt  
(WASHINGTON) United States Debut Exhibit of Critically  
Acclaimed Slovak Artist's 'Uniting Hands'

LATU074 05/10/2005 11:15 r e bc-CA-Universal-HDVD  
(UNIVERSAL CITY) Universal Studios Home Entertainment Endorses New HD DVD  
Discs

NYTU169 05/10/2005 11:18 r e bc-NY-NY-mag-thtr-critic

(NEW YORK) Jeremy McCarter Named Chief Theater Critic for New York Magazine

PHTU028 05/10/2005 11:21 r f bc-PA-TriMedia-debt-conv  
(PHILADELPHIA) TriMedia Entertainment Group Completes a \$3,268,162 Debt Conversion and Conversion of Preferred Shares

PHTU029 05/10/2005 11:24 r f bc-NJ-Airtrax-CNBC  
(HAMMONTON) CNBC Features Airtrax - 'Reinvention of the Wheel' on May 6, 2005; Broadcast Now Available Online

LATU093 05/10/2005 11:31 r f bc-CA-DIRECTV-Para-Todos  
(EL SEGUNDO) DIRECTV PARA TODOS 'Home Away From Home' Programming Attracts Hispanic Viewers in Record Numbers

PHTU034 05/10/2005 11:56 r f bc-NJ-Formation-IMS  
(MOORESTOWN) Formation, Inc. Partners with IMS Inflight to Deliver Ruggedized Wireless Terminal Data Loader

NYTU177 05/10/2005 11:59 r f bc-CT-Competitive-Qwatro  
(FAIRFIELD) Competitive Technologies Licenses Golf Product to Qwatro Corporation

SFTU041 05/10/2005 12:00 r f bc-WA-MSFT-EBGames-Xbox  
(REDMOND) Microsoft and EB Games Collaborate in Delivering Innovative Xbox Live Experience

NYTU159 05/10/2005 12:01 r e bc-NY-Nick-Jr.-LazyTown  
(NEW YORK) Nick Jr. Energizes Preschoolers All Summer Long With LazyTown

DATU038 05/10/2005 12:30 r f bc-TX-Belo-accounting  
(DALLAS) Belo Re-Elects Board Members, Ratifies Appointment of Independent Public Accounting Firm at Annual Meeting of Shareholders

DATU040 05/10/2005 12:30 r f bc-TX-Belo-Seay-award  
(DALLAS) Belo Presents 2005 William H. Seay Award to Glenn Wright, Television Innovator and Leader in the Northwest

SFTU110 05/10/2005 12:53 r f bc-CA-Planetwide-GME  
(COSTA MESA) \$1,000,000 Tournament Grand Prize Largest in Video Game History to Be Promoted Through GameStop

DCTU052 05/10/2005 12:55 r a bc-FAAN-Allergies-Movie  
(FAIRFAX) New Movie, Monster-in-Law, Insensitive to Millions of Americans With Food Allergies

NYTU165 05/10/2005 13:00 r f bc-NY-Strategic-Research  
(NEW YORK) eMarketer CEO Geoff Ramsey to Keynote at eMarketing 2005 Orlando Forum in One Week

LATU104 05/10/2005 13:08 r e bc-CA-Universal-Home  
(UNIVERSAL CITY) Universal Studios Home Entertainment Announces

NYTU186 05/10/2005 13:24 r f bc-NV-VEGAS.com-100hours



(LAS VEGAS) VEGAS.com Announces '100 Hours in Vegas Package'  
Commemorating City's Centennial

LATU112 05/10/2005 14:12 r f bc-CA-INA-Podcast-Risks  
(LOS ANGELES) Podcasters May Be Overlooking Huge Legal Risks in the Fine  
Print

DATU103 05/10/2005 14:38 r f bc-TX-Blockbuster-vote  
(DALLAS) Blockbuster Clarifies Procedure for 'Split Voting'

LATU120 05/10/2005 14:51 r f bc-NV-Streamline-Tower  
(LAS VEGAS) Streamline Tower Dubs Councilman Lawrence Weekly 'Art  
Ambassador'

NYTU205 05/10/2005 15:03 r f bc-NJ-AccessIT-Christie  
(MORRISTOWN) Access Integrated Technologies, Christie Team Up to Bring  
Movies to the Digital Screen in State-of-the-Art '2K' Format

LATU119 05/10/2005 15:06 r e bc-CA-GreenwichGroupPlay  
(LOS ANGELES) The Greenwich Group Presents THE>PLAYGROUND

CGTU088 05/10/2005 15:10 r f bc-NV-Steffend-KBIS  
(LAS VEGAS) Joan Steffend Selects Hot New Products at the  
2005 Kitchen & Bath Industry Show

CGTU091 05/10/2005 15:23 r a bc-KS-Idol-Blood-Drive  
(TOPEKA) First-Ever Blood Drive Ties to American Idol(R) and is  
Expected to Bring in Thousands of Donors, Targets Young People

NYTU207 05/10/2005 15:35 r s bc-NY-NBA-playoffs  
(NEW YORK) High Scoring First-Round NBA Playoff Games Drive  
Increases in Viewership and Attendance

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custom email allows the user to determine the format of the message  
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Primedia Insight  
Telephony Online Online Exclusive

May 10, 2005

**LENGTH:** 233 words

**HEADLINE:** NextWeb extends network to Las Vegas

**BYLINE:** By Jason Ankeny

**BODY:**

Broadband wireless service provider NextWeb today announced its first network expansion outside of its native California, extending coverage into Las Vegas.

NextWeb's pre-WiMAX Internet and voice-over-IP services will now be available to approximately 35,000 businesses across Sin City.

Service plans start at \$159 a month for up to 3 Mbps.

"We consider several demographic factors when determining where to build out new markets, including number of businesses in the area, the types of industries that are present, and the rate of growth," said NextWeb CEO Graham Barnes in a statement. "Las Vegas fits all of our criteria and will be a key part of our expansion strategy."

NextWeb's entry into Las Vegas follows on the heels of rival provider Mpower's recent announcement that it too will roll out fixed wireless broadband service in the Vegas market. NextWeb will also face new competition in its home market of San Francisco—last week, fixed wireless provider TowerStream announced its expansion into the Bay Area.

In additional NextWeb news, the company announced Monday the addition of high-speed wireless service provider Westcoast Communications to the SkyWeb Alliance, a network of California-based fixed wireless broadband providers. Per the agreement, NextWeb and Westcoast will offer each other capacity on their respective networks at wholesale rates and collaborate on marketing and sales.

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University Wire

May 10, 2005 Tuesday

**SECTION:** COLUMN**LENGTH:** 627 words**HEADLINE:** Behind the scenes**BYLINE:** By Chuck Prochaska, Daily Illini; **SOURCE:** U. Illinois**DATELINE:** CHAMPAIGN, Ill.**BODY:**

"I feel summer creepin' in and I'm tired of this town again..." sings Tom Petty.

To some extent, I'm ready for summer to begin because I'm ready for a change, but part of me really wants to hang around to write more columns and party without having to worry about classes (okay, maybe not the writing part). But the Daily Illini and the Air Force say that this can't be so. I'll be in Vegas next week, taking Field Training for Air Force ROTC in Alabama in June (shout out to my FTP ROTC crew!) and visiting Nashville in August. In between, it's back to work at Acura for a few weeks. It's been a heck of a year but don't worry — to paraphrase Frosty the Snowman, or John Kerry, "I'll be back again someday."

I kind of backed my way into this job. Traditionally, I'm a glutton for punishment, so I applied for a position as an opinions columnist. After submitting an application laden with conservative-isms I was rejected outright, but the then-opinions editor and all around great guy (liberal, at that!) named Wayne Ma decided to give me a shot after getting to know me. My first few columns were relatively harmless, lacking the partisan zing that I eventually developed. In a point-counterpoint forum, I introduced you to the conservative side of stem cell research, third parties, and the Wicked Witch of the West (Europe, that is) Theresa Heinz-Kerry. Then it happened.

A year of hard work validated my trash talking, and I got to write the column that conservatives across the nation wished they could write. "Democrats don't get it," my post-election raspberry blown at deserving campus liberals, elicited one of the most popular responses in the letters to the editor section of the Daily Illini ever, only to be outdone by cartoonist Matt Vroom. Angry liberal mobs stormed their favorite non-conglomerate coffee shops to denounce conservatism, anti-Semitism, myself, and the hunter guy in "I Hate Pam."

After a month spent protected by armed security forces at an undisclosed location in the south suburbs, I was advised that the liberal chatter had calmed, and the risk of assassination attempts had fallen sharply. I returned to campus with an inaugural badge of courage bestowed upon me by President Bush, only to write a mostly non-partisan commentary on love and politics. "All's fair in love and politics," was denounced by my political adversaries. According to them, I objectified women, and my cold conservatism was the reason for my (sarcastic) hopeless bachelordom.

Little did I know, a girl on the other side of campus (but the right side of politics) was ready to accept my offer for a night of carryout and The O'Reilly Factor. When a friend of ours played Cupid a week later, it was pretty clear that this job was going to pay off one way or another.

Throughout the year, I've been branded as a blind supporter of Bush administration, spewing their rhetoric without thinking for myself. This is completely unjustified. If that were the case, I would have divulged this hidden agenda before the election instead of wasting columns on third parties and celebrities sticking their nose in politics. The fact is that I, along with the majority of this country, agree that President Bush has the right plan for our country. I got to interact with this majority and write about my experiences in "The real America," my post-spring break column. The rest of the Midwest and south proved to me that there is hope for conservatism after Champaign-Urbana.

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It was an exciting year for U.S. politics. I'm glad I had the opportunity to diversify our activist haven in central Illinois while simultaneously filling Jon Monteith's every weblog thought and weekly column. Have a great summer and we'll see each other in the fall.

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Copyright 2005 The Washington Post  
The Washington PostMay 10, 2005 Tuesday  
Final Edition**SECTION:** Style; C04**LENGTH:** 1042 words**HEADLINE:** Poker Periodicals: How to Hold 'Em**BYLINE:** Peter Carlson, Washington Post Staff Writer**BODY:**

Daniel Negreanu won \$4 million in poker tournaments in 2004, and Card Player magazine named him Player of the Year. Another poker magazine, All In, said Negreanu "might just be the hottest poker player in the world." Recently, Negreanu consented to share his wisdom in an interview with Bluff, yet another poker mag.

Negreanu, 30, talked about his blog. He touted a line of "poker vitamins." He revealed what he listens to on his iPod during tournaments — "the sounds of the ocean and birds chirping." And he talked about his newfound devotion to Jesus.

"Has it improved your game?" the interviewer asked.

"100 percent," Negreanu said. "If you look at the timeline of my results, finding my faith and my big wins coincide."

iPod? Blog? Bird calls? Poker vitamins? Jesus?

Gee, high-stakes poker sure has changed since the days when it was played in smoky backrooms by guys called Doc and Slim and Fats — guys who would no doubt greet chatter about vitamins and Jesus with that ancient poker mantra: Shut up and deal.

These days, poker is big business. In the last decade, the rise of televised poker and online poker has spawned a poker craze. Poker is a spectator sport now, seen on countless TV shows — "Poker Royale" and "Poker Superstars International" and "Celebrity Poker Showdown" and the "World Poker Tour." If you're a truly hard-core fan, you can buy a handcrafted, custom-made, limited-edition bobblehead doll of your favorite poker champ for \$29.99.

And naturally this poker craze has spawned a slew of magazines. In addition to the aforementioned Bluff and All In and Card Player, there's Player, "the gambling lifestyle magazine," and Casino Player, which is probably the only magazine in the world whose masthead lists not only a "Video Poker Editor" but a "Fulfillment Director."

What does the "fulfillment director" of a Vegas-based casino mag do? A perverse mind can conjure up all sorts of wild fantasies. Alas, the truth is more prosaic.

"I fulfill the subscription obligations of the magazine," says Joanne Sommario.

You can learn a lot by reading poker magazines. Reading Casino Player, I learned that a man named Frank Marino has made his living as a Joan Rivers impersonator in Vegas since 1985.

Reading All In, I learned that "living legend" Doyle Brunson is immortalized in the Poker Hall of Fame, the Seniors of Poker Hall of Fame, the Casino Legends Hall of Fame and the Poker Tour Walk of Fame.

Reading Player, I learned that "Tilt," the ESPN gambling drama series, has "the poker world up in arms." Why? "The controversy stems from the show's portrayal of players as cheats, crooks and generally malevolent people," which is, a Player editorial complains, "an image that poker players have fought hard to disprove."

Amazing! Even poker players are worried about their image these days! Is there any profession left in America that still doesn't care about its media image?

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Sometimes poker mags are written in a jargon that is almost incomprehensible to outsiders. Card Player recently ran one article of scholarly poker advice titled "Understanding Flop Texture" and another titled "Four Bets Without the Nuts?," which began with this sentence: "You will hardly ever see two players put in four bets each on the river with neither one of them holding the nuts."

I have no idea what that means, which probably explains why I'm such a lousy poker player.

Even in the age of yuppified poker, the players are still the most interesting aspect of the game. The current issue of All In features mini bios of the 64 players in the National Heads-Up Poker Championship, which NBC is broadcasting every weekend this month. These folks are a lot better educated than Doc and Slim and Fats ever were, but some of them are pretty colorful.

Mike Caro, known as the "Mad Genius of Poker," wrote a best-selling book on the body language of poker and founded something called the Mike Caro University of Poker, Gaming and Life Strategy.

Chris Ferguson, known as "Jesus" for his long hair and beard, has a PhD in computer science, with a specialty in artificial intelligence, and hopes to become a professor of game theory.

Annie Duke, a graduate of Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania, is raising three kids while competing on the poker tournament circuit.

Chau Giang fled Vietnam in a small boat and worked as a cook in Chinese restaurant before winning one of the events in the 2004 World Series of Poker.

And so on. It's an eclectic group that looks like America.

Easily the best piece I read in these mags was Rob Fulop's "The Magician, the Unabomber and the Guy Who Never Wins," published in Bluff. It's a hilarious account of Fulop's trip to Vegas to see his old poker-playing buddies Antonio "The Magician" Esfandiari and Phil "Unabomber" Laak, both of whom have won fame and fortune on the poker tour.

They're ensconced in the Magician's new house, which has wall-to-wall white carpeting and a giant TV screen but not a single picture or plant. There's a pool and a hot tub and plenty of half-filled booze bottles.

"Bellagio chips, ranging from \$10 to \$1,000, lie scattered over the coffee table, serving as drink coasters," Fulop writes. "A rubber-banded two-inch-thick wad of \$100 bills sitting on one of the cushions of the sofa looks as if somebody just tossed it there a few days ago and forgot about it."

Fulop arrives at 1:30 in the afternoon and finds that the Magician has just gotten up and is sitting in his boxer shorts working off his hangover by playing online poker for serious money. Laak wanders into the room in his boxer shorts and stuffs a two-day-old jelly doughnut into his face. He looks at the screen that shows the online game before he starts barking advice to the Magician.

"DUDE!" Laak bellows, "How can you flat CALL? Your draw is too BIG! Put his butt ALL IN and punish him!"

Naturally, the Magician starts yelling insults back at Laak as he taps out his bets on his laptop.

"At this point," Fulop writes, "Phil is wiping grape jelly off his mouth with his hands and smearing them onto his boxers, trying to ignore Antonio's insult to his poker prowess."

And there you have it, folks — the secret life of poker giants, circa 2005.

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The Western Mail

May 10, 2005

**LENGTH:** 1450 words

**HEADLINE:** CRAZY IN LOVE?

**BYLINE:** Claire Hill Western Mail

**BODY:**

Is anyone else finding the new romance between Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes hard to believe? You'd be hard pushed to convince WM's Claire Hill it's not a publicity stunt...

PRAISE be, a new celebrity couple has appeared and it looks like they're set to take over our lives ... at least until they break up, anyway.

Hollywood blockbuster actor, A-lister, religious enthusiast, serial husband, notorious litigator against gay rumours, 42-year-old Tom Cruise has got a new beau.

She's the all American gal, 16 years his junior, handily just split up with her fiance, still a 'virgin': yes, it's pretty and perky Katie Holmes.

And they're in love, so the reports go ... after just a couple of weeks.

So in love, in fact, that the notoriously private Cruise wants to shout it from the roof tops and is getting his publicist sister to announce it to the world. Not to mention telling the media that he's 'more than enamoured'.

Either this is the fastest falling-in-love of all time, or there's something fishy going on. Did I mention they've both got films coming out?

And did I mention that Cruise arguably hasn't really had a hit film for a few years, and Holmes, despite a few independent films, is still pretty much known as 'that girl from Dawson's Creek'?

Oops, sorry, did that all sound a little bit cynical? I suppose it does but really, I can't help but feel there's something gone very awry here.

It's all too staged, too masterminded with perfect sound bites and photo opportunities. Here the happy (if a bit unlikely) couple is, living it up in Rome. Here they are again, this time kissing in Vegas. Holding hands for the photographers. Beaming at the camera. Being nice to journalists.

If you've spent your whole life, like Cruise has, dodging personal questions from the media why shout about a relationship of only a couple of weeks? It's so totally unlike him. Why bring your very young new girlfriend, who only split up from the man she was going to marry last month, to a high profile film festival where you were getting a 'lifetime achievement award'? Why stay in the hotel where you took your second wife, Nicole Kidman, and your last girlfriend, Penelope Cruz?

And surely as a newly single woman, the 26-year-old Holmes might reasonably (a) be on the rebound after a five-year relationship or (b) be slightly intimidated by the women who've gone before her?

But there's little sign of either. She's got a huge goofy grin on her face all the time. She looks smug, happy at all

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the attention. Given all of this, the parading around and rather awkward-looking kissing for the cameras, to me anyway, screams 'publicity stunt' and if so, Cruise is making a rod for his own back.

The whole point of celeb romances is to deny it for ages, then get caught out (a la Pitt and Jolie) but still deny it, in the hope you can protect your fledgling love from the glaring eye of the media.

That's what you'd do if you were starting a proper relationship. Because let's face it, even in non-celeb world, would you really tell everyone you knew you were in love etc, etc after just a few weeks? Not if you wanted something serious to blossom without everyone watching.

And Cruise had the perfect cover to get over those tricky, tentative and private early stages of a relationship behind closed doors. Everyone was far too obsessed with Brad Pitt's lovelife to pay him any interest - but maybe that's the problem.

With a high profile, big budget film coming out in the next couple of weeks - War of the Worlds-he's got to up the ante.

His last three films haven't exactly set the box office alight, with the likes of Matt Damon and even Vin Diesel beating him to the title of action hero. He has to watch his ex-wife's star shooting into another stratosphere and his last girlfriend, the lusty Penelope, constantly bleating about how fantastic her relationship is with sex god Matthew McConaughey (who is, by the way, several years Cruise's junior).

If Tom's new love isn't real, as many reports currently coming out of the States are speculating, then you can't blame the guy for trying. Sometimes it seems that without a glitzy woman on his arm, the press only get fired up about Tom's interest in Scientology. Which surely only damages his stock.

He got a complete bashing about that last week in a German magazine which questioned why he apparently tried to convert crew members by insisting on having a Scientology manned tent next to the food truck on the set of War of the Worlds. Cruise is a well-known and outspoken fan on Scientology, even - allegedly - extolling its virtues to David and Victoria Beckham last year, at a football match in Madrid. Critics of course, point to the myriad rules and regulations of the religion, which don't necessarily do it any favours (women are asked to stay silent during childbirth, for example....).

But back to the well-oiled Cruise/Holmes romance publicity machine. It seems that every angle has been covered and every question conveniently answered.

Given the age gap, some might say 'Well done, life in the old dog yet' therefore giving Cruise kudos with his peers (well, the male ones anyway). But there are also bound to be voices of dissension, whispering about cradle-snatching and rubbing his ex-wife's 38-year-old nose in it, while Cruise cavorts around the world with a woman young enough to be his daughter (especially given that she looks about 18, and is best known for playing a teen on screen).

However, any worries about Tom's intentions were seemingly laid to rest, if you pardon the expression, when it was reported that Holmes intends to stay a virgin till her wedding night - and even her dad has announced he approves of the relationship.

Goodness, the smooth PR machine running of this relationship knows no bounds. Except, doesn't that sound a little odd to you? A father of two, a twice-married man, heading for his mid-forties, going out with a mid-twenties woman who says she won't have sex before marriage? That's not ringing any alarm bells for you, dear reader?

But maybe his intentions are entirely honourable. Maybe they really have just met their soulmates, and fallen madly in love, despite the odds stacked against it. So, onto marriage - well, the subject's already being broached.

In October, Holmes announced in Seventeen mag that 'I used to think I was going to marry Tom Cruise', to which he has now apparently responded, 'I don't want to disappoint her.' After two weeks?!

In public, Cruise has been announcing, 'She's an extraordinary woman. It's beautiful. I feel really happy. I'm more than enamoured. And I know I will marry again.'

Such gushing sentiments from the man who is normally so tight-lipped about his private life.

Hmm. Compare the above to Cruise's lawyer's statement during the divorce proceedings with Kidman (which, by the way, were begun right after it was discovered that she had been pregnant, miscarried and, heartbroken, begged him to work things out.)

Starkly, it read, 'Nicole has always known exactly why the parties are divorcing.'

Hmm, ok. But even if you believe Tom's words (and the fact that he ordered 40 Giorgio Armani outfits to be sent to their hotel room in Rome for Katie, plus jewellery and roses: not over the top at all, and by the way, why release these details to the media?), I think that you only have to look at them to wonder if it's all real.

There have been awkward kisses, and cuddles you'd expect more from your dad than a lover.

Laughing and joking for the cameras, dressed in one trendy suit or leather jacket after another, Tom looks relaxed ...but I'm wondering where the chemistry is. I don't see it...and surely if they're this in love, it'd be obvious?

Maybe I'm just missing something. After they hit Rome they headed to Las Vegas where Cruise performed backflips with the cast of Cirque de Soleil's erotic show Ka before kissing and canoodling with Holmes.

The way this pair are going they're outdoing Charles and Camilla with their honeymoon tour.

Call me cynical but with Katie's role in Batman Begins due out soon and War of the Worlds, I'm just not going to buy this one, and I'm not alone. American TV stations are already calling the relationship 'a sham' and voters on AOL only give the liaison a week.

Cruise has always been a showman, spending hours touching flesh with Joe Public at premieres, but maybe this is one performance on which he just won't convince his public.

What do you think? Are Tom and Katie for real, or for the cameras? Email your thoughts to [claire.hill@wme.co.uk](mailto:claire.hill@wme.co.uk), or [sarah.drew.jones@wme.co.uk](mailto:sarah.drew.jones@wme.co.uk)

**JOURNAL-CODE:** WESM

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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May 10, 2005, Tuesday

## SECTION: ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

KR-ACC-NO: K1265

LENGTH: 1442 words

HEADLINE: TV Gal drowns in finale flood

## BODY:

)

By Amy Amatangelo

Zap2it.com

Oh, you know how I get this time of year. So much TV, so little time. Blurry eyed I begin to get characters and situations confused (Did Logan Echolls have anything to do with Mary Alice's committing suicide? Why didn't Matthew Fox play Jake's brother on "Everwood?" And does Harold know what his sister Linda has been up to this season?) and I'm pretty sure my TiVo was holding up a sign that said "Union now." We already know that TiVo can make phone calls, what's to stop it from contacting other TiVos and demanding more manageable hours?

A look at the shows ending this week:

"The Amazing Race" (9 p.m. Tuesday, CBS): Love 'em or hate 'em (and you know where I fall), you have to admit that Boston Rob and Amber have played the game brilliantly and they make for great television. Romber continues to benefit from their brazen combination of luck, strategy and fame. However, I'd like to see Boston Rob and Amber come in second and for Uchenna and Joyce, the nicest folks ever to play, to come in first.

"Scrubs" (9 p.m. Tuesday, NBC): Times, they are a-changing \_ especially at Sacred Heart Hospital. J.D. moves out of the apartment he shared with Turk and Carla and there's one other very big surprise in the fourth season finale of "Scrubs." With the future of "Arrested Development" still unfortunately up in the air, thank goodness we know "Scrubs" will be back next season. Also don't forget that the "Scrubs" first season DVD is released Tuesday.

"Veronica Mars" (9 p.m. Tuesday, UPN): I'm quite comforted by the fact that Logan seems way too obvious a choice now. We will find out who killed Lilly Kane on the season finale. I'm banking on one of the parents \_ although Harry Hamlin has been so brilliant this season that I hope everyone in the Echolls family is guilt free. Word is that before this season ends, another mystery will begin. "Lost" and "Desperate Housewives" have received all the hype, but "Veronica Mars" has been the near-perfect series \_ it gets better and better every week.

"Jack & Bobby" (9 p.m. Wednesday, WB): They've pulled out all the stops for the season finale. My favorite is that Tim Robbins will be the voice of the future President. I loved that Jack took responsibility for driving the car. Most shows would have taken the easy, let's-all-learn-a-valuable-lesson trajectory. This was the riskier, more interesting move. Yes the season has been uneven, but let's hope the show gets the opportunity to spin TV conventions upside down again next season.

"Enterprise" (8 p.m. Friday, UPN): Could this be the final frontier for the long-running franchise? Running for only four years, the UPN series failed to live long and prosper. This will be the first time in 18 years that there hasn't been a "Star Trek" show on television. The controversial series finale features the return of beloved "Star Trek: The Next Generation" characters Commander Will Riker (Jonathan Frakes) and Counselor Deanna Troi (Marina Sirtis). Many fans

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are upset that characters from "The Next Generation" will dominate "Enterprise" finale. After you watch the final two hours, let me know what you think.

"Survivor: Palau" (8 p.m. Sunday, CBS): I'm rooting for Tom to win but I would so love it if CBS could figure out a way to parse the finale and reunion down to two hours. For instance I could totally do without that symbolic walk the final players take past their fallen competitors. That would save some time, don't you think?

#### QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"I didn't feel anything at all. I hope I'm not some kind of a psychopath." Chloe to Edgar about killing a terrorist on "24" (Monday, FOX).

"There were about 100 people at Shelly's party. Ninety-eight of them would walk over my corpse for free gum." Veronica on "Veronica Mars."

"Why don't you just get a haircut? I'm getting a little sick of the whole Sean Cassidy thing." Seth to Zach on "The O.C." (Thursday, FOX). You know I like Zach but I'm so glad someone finally acknowledged his haircut. That boy needs an "American Idol" style makeover.

"It's like we almost got cancelled, then everyone decided they loved us and then we got picked up for another season." Amy to Hannah about her relationship with Ephram on "Everwood." Thanks to Rob for the quote.

"Why does everyone I care about leave me? Keanu Reeves, the Lakers, MC Skat Cat." Amy Poehler as Paula Abdul on "Saturday Night Live."

"When Paris is happy the whole world is happy, but when she's not happy, the whole world is 'Deadwood.'" Rory to Logan on "Gilmore Girls" (Tuesday, WB). Thanks to Lance for the quote.

"It's very hush-hush, very secret, very Wisteria Lane." Jack describing his new show on "Will & Grace" (Thursday, NBC).

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

All times listed are EDT for Tuesday through Sunday.

If I'm in love with "Everwood" (which, of course, I am), I'm having a little thing on the side with "Gilmore Girls" (8 p.m. Tuesday, WB). Now, you know I've always loved my "Girls" and considered running away to Stars Hollow but the show has hit a remarkable stride in its fifth season. The show's strength is that it is firmly rooted in realistic situations. Why wouldn't Rory fall for a charismatic rich kid who she's a little bit in awe of (usually the boys have been in awe of Rory). Of course, Lorelai would be horrified to see Rory get sucked into the world she spent her whole life running from and desperately tried to keep away from Rory? And, even though we all love Luke (and we really do), it's quite easy to believe that Lorelai who is unfettered for the first time since she was 16 years old, might want to explore the world, have a fantastic high-powered job and leave Stars Hollow behind for a little while. This week, Rory gets a performance evaluation for her work at the newspaper and the article about The Dragonfly is published.

So, I ended up picking only two of the final four contestants correctly on "American Idol" (8 p.m. Tuesday, FOX). I knew Bo and Carrie would be there, but I also thought Nadia and Anwar would be part of the singing showdown. As I've always said, don't take me to Vegas. It will be interesting to see if the show addresses last week's allegations this week. I doubt they will. I do have to say it was a brilliant move on Paula's part to go on "Saturday Night Live" and make fun of herself. Whether or not you think Corey Clark is telling the truth, Paula owned the "this is too ridiculous for anyone to believe" moment.

Things get much more complicated on "House" (9 p.m. Tuesday, FOX). Here's a hint: what always happens when an ex-girlfriend (in this case Sela Ward) is about to come back into the picture? Ward begins her stint next week so look for someone to make a move on the good doctor this week.

As you know I think "The O.C." (8 p.m. Thursday, FOX) is tragically underpopulated \_ seriously, a census of the entire county would take like five seconds. That's why I'm so disappointed that the writers have totally demonized Trey past the point of redemption. I liked the actor and thought he'd be a nice addition to the cast. That, of course, can never happen now that he's suddenly evil. This is a bad turn of events. I've said it before, but it's worth repeating. "The O.C." has already become too much like a latter day "Melrose Place." When "Melrose" started to go bad, I often felt like they were



in a race I didn't know about \_ story lines clipped along so quickly I didn't have time to care about them before they were suddenly over. Unfortunately, the same can be said for "The O.C." this season. Seriously, I'd take Oliver any day over some of this nonsense. They've ruined Seth (who is far too aware of how cute he is), they've turned Summer into a shrill pest (her story line with Seth is on continuous repeat mode), and can anyone justify Ryan's haircut? Only the parents are faring well these days.

Thandie Newton returns to "ER" (10 p.m. Thursday, NBC) and Carter makes a choice about his future at County General. Hmmmm ... well let's do the math on this \_ Noah Wyle is leaving the series, so what do you think Carter will decide to do?

Luke Perry returns to "What I Like About You" (8 p.m. Friday, WB).

That's all for today. I'm back next Monday with my goodbye to "Everybody Loves Raymond" (I'll tell you my favorite episodes), thoughts on the season finales of "Gilmore Girls," "That '70s Show," "The Apprentice" (go Tana), "Desperate Housewives," "Grey's Anatomy" and much, much more.

Have a question, seen a familiar face, have an inside scoop or want to nominate a quote of the week? Write me at [amytvgal@zap2it.com](mailto:amytvgal@zap2it.com).

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**JOURNAL-CODE: ZP**

**LOAD-DATE: May 10, 2005**

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adweek.com

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** NEWS; West**LENGTH:** 386 words**HEADLINE:** R&R Heads to the 'Burbs for New Vegas Spot**SOURCE:** Online**BYLINE:** Randi Schmelzer**BODY:**

LOS ANGELES Independent R&R Partners' latest television effort on behalf of the Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority broke late last week, the agency said.

It is the client's third campaign installment so far this year, a continuation of the work that has made "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" a pop-culture catchphrase, an R&R representative said. But this time, there's a twist.

"We're further into the evolution of the campaign," said Rob Dondero, executive vice president of the Las Vegas shop, noting that the new spot, "Parents," does not feature any footage of the city's neon-lit Strip. "This isn't even set in Vegas. Really, we're developing a brand rather than a product."

Set in any suburb, anywhere, the 30-second "Parents" is clearly "real-life inspired," said agency creative director Randy Snow. The commercial begins with footage of a teenager in a house-cleaning frenzy, urgently gathering pizza boxes and soda cans after what appears to have been a wild weekend. When his mother and father stroll in the house moments later, the kid "is panicking like a deer in headlights," Snow said.

Upon being asked what he did all weekend, the teenager nervously—and not surprisingly—says, "Nothin'." But then, the twist: The kid asks his mom and dad what *they* did all weekend. After exchanging equally nervous glances, his parents reply, "Nothin'!" and escape up the stairs. Text on a black background reads, "What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas."

"Anyone with children over the age of 13 can identify," Snow laughed.

This marks the agency's second spot for the LVCVA that does not showcase scenes of Las Vegas itself, Snow said. The city was not featured in R&R's Super Bowl commercial, "Punch Drunk," either.

"The campaign has evolved in people's minds: They get the joke," an agency rep explained of the series' subtle changes. "So, now where do you take it?"

The LVCVA's 2005 broadcast media buy is estimated at \$32 million, and includes placement on network TV as well as cable channels such as Bravo, MTV, Fine Living, MSNBC, Fox, Travel Channel and E!, according to R&R.

"Parents" will rotate through the end of the year, along with two already-released spots and two yet-to-launch executions. A new episode will hit the airwaves in June, Snow said.

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Akron Beacon Journal (Ohio)

May 9, 2005 Monday 4X EDITION

**SECTION:** A; BRIEF; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 1707 words

**HEADLINE:** Resort a role model for casinos in Ohio;  
Facility is what tribe has in mind for Lordstown if state allows gambling

**BYLINE:** By Carl Chancellor; Beacon Journal staff writer

**DATELINE:** MOUNT PLEASANT, MICH.

**BODY:**

Gauzy patches of morning mist skimmed along the surface of a man-made pond as Anne and Ron Hagadorn strode across a slowly filling casino parking lot, expectant looks on their faces.

"This is our big thing. We go to all the casinos in Michigan," said an excited Anne, adding that several times a year she and husband, Ron, who hail from Brooklyn, Mich., "pile into the truck and take off."

"The slots, that's my thing, but he is the one who usually wins," said Anne, eager to enter the rustic-looking casino, heavy with stone, massive timbers and ironwork.

"This place has a Vegas feel to it; we really like coming here," Anne continued.

Ron nodded in agreement.

This place is Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, a 10-year-old, multimillion-dollar gambling casino, four-diamond hotel and entertainment complex, owned and operated by the Saginaw Chippewa tribe that in 2003 netted an estimated \$400 million in revenue from its various games of chance.

And, if gaming interests in Ohio have their way, something like this place could very well be in nearby Lordstown, where a casino and resort complex — patterned after Soaring Eagle — has been proposed.

"It would be a resort destination very similar to Soaring Eagle," said Terry Casey, the = [100.0]Columbus consultant working with the Eastern Shawnee tribe to bring a casino and resort to Trumbull County. The Oklahoma-based tribe, with roots in Ohio, is lobbying Gov. Bob Taft and state lawmakers to allow casino gambling in the state.

In the shadow of the sprawling General Motors assembly plant on 137 acres on state Route 45 near the Ohio Turnpike's Bailey Road exit, Casey envisions a gleaming \$100 million to \$300 million gambling resort sprouting from the site.

"It would be first-rate, a resort with a wide range of retail, entertainment and gaming options," Casey said.

First rate is what Soaring Eagle is all about. It sits on the Isabella Indian Reservation just three miles east of the Mayberry-like town of Mount Pleasant in the heart of Michigan's lower peninsula.

On any given day, a steady stream of cars and tour buses come off of U.S. Route 27 and zip under the casino's enormous yawning stone arch entryway. An average of 13,000 visitors a day make their way to Soaring Eagle, most of them seeking to best the casino's slot machines and card tables — to pit their luck against the house.

"We have 4,600 slots and 73 table games — poker, blackjack, craps, roulette," Michael Thomas said, sweeping an arm to allow his visitor to take in the 210,000-square-foot gaming floor.

Flashing technicolor neon lights and the constant din of jangling bells and electronic chirps and beeps wash across a

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gaming floor that is larger than two football fields.

Little gray-haired ladies in floral dresses, men in baseball caps and fresh-faced college students stand in front of green felt tables as dealers in skinny ties and crisp shirts flip cards in front of stacks of chips.

Bottoms of every shape and size fill the tall, high-back stools lined in front of the slots. The owners of those rear ends sit mesmerized, stuffing silver coins and paper money into the machines as their glazed eyes fix on spinning fruit and cartoon characters, their ears perked to hear the clang of tumbling coins.

Thomas, Soaring Eagle's communications manager, said the casino draws patrons from all across Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Canada.

"We pull from everywhere, and every year it just keeps getting better," said Thomas, who stood in front of the majestic two-story fireplace that dominates the lobby area of the 512-room hotel.

Thomas said Soaring Eagle, which has the look and feel of an elegant ski chalet, boasts three restaurants, a heated pool and full-service spa facility, a video arcade for children, several gift shops and a number of conference rooms to host conventions and annual meetings.

The casino resort, which already had a 3,200-seat theater that books top headliners such as Alicia Keys, Tim McGraw and Lynyrd Skynyrd, opened a 10,000-seat outdoor amphitheater just this month.

"We didn't spare any expense. We spent more than \$2 million on original Native American art alone," Thomas noted.

Now the push is on to bring a Soaring Eagle-type facility to Ohio — one of only 15 states that has not sanctioned casinos. Last Thursday a group of gambling proponents, representing a variety of interests from racetrack owners to charitable organizations, met for a second time in Columbus to discuss expanding gaming in the state.

The Eastern Shawnee tribe, which proposed the Lordstown casino, has also sealed land deals for casino projects in Lorain, on 150 acres off I-75 near Cincinnati and in the town of Botkins between Dayton and Toledo.

#### Much-needed cash

As cash-strapped state and local budgets continue to pinch, the lure of gambling revenue seems irresistible.

The Eastern Shawnee tribe speculates that taxes from casino and related operations could pump as much as \$700 million to \$900 million a year into Ohio coffers.

Officials in Lordstown are hoping a casino complex could create as many as 3,000 jobs and generate as much as \$425,000 annually in income taxes.

But what really has city officials drooling is a potential profit-sharing agreement, similar to the one struck between the Soaring Eagle casino and the town of Mount Pleasant, which could yield millions for Lordstown and surrounding Trumbull County communities.

Paul Preston, city manager of Mount Pleasant, said the Saginaw Chippewa tribe, which owns and operates Soaring Eagle, has an agreement that provides his town and several surrounding communities with 2 percent of the net revenue from electronic gaming — slots, video poker and the like.

"That has been more than \$10 million for Mount Pleasant over the last nine to 10 years," Preston said.

Just like the profit-sharing proposal for a future Lordstown casino, which would also be somewhere around 2 percent from electronic games, the Saginaw Chippewa tribe, along with representatives from surrounding towns, has established a committee to oversee the distribution of the funds.

"The bulk of the money is directed to public safety purposes... police, fire, emergency service team," said Preston. He said the tribe also funds youth service programs in the town of just less than 30,000 residents.

According to Preston, "Soaring Eagle has been a very good neighbor."

Likewise, Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce President James Kostrava said the impact of the casino has been nothing but positive.

"It has been a big boon to the whole community," Kostrava said. "It has had an enormous economic impact."

"It's the area's largest employer. The casino employs more than 4,000 people at the casino, hotel and convention center," Kostrava said. Soaring Eagle's work force nearly doubles that of the area's next largest employer, Central Michigan University.

#### Economic booster

Kostrava said the casino has generated significant economic spinoff for the area, including the addition of five new hotels, and several fast-food restaurants along with increased business for advertising and publishing firms and taxicab operators.

Yet not everyone in Mount Pleasant is singing the praises of Soaring Eagle.

Rob Davis, manager of the Broadway Grille, one of more than two dozen business on the quaint, circa-1900s town square, said his eatery, which highlights its breakfast and lunch specials on a chalk board, hasn't really benefited from the gambling bonanza.

"There's been no upsurge in business," said Davis, a dish towel draping a meaty shoulder. Soaring Eagle, he said, is an all-inclusive resort, and as such, patrons don't have to venture from the grounds.

The casino's goal, he said, is to "keep them in there" gambling.

However, just six doors down from the Broadway Grille at McCarthy's Downtown Drugs — which looks like a Rockwell painting complete with red tin ceiling — Wendy Sanders has a different take.

Sanders, who runs the drugstore's soda shop, said a number of casino patrons find their way to her counter for old-fashioned ice cream sodas and flavored Cokes.

"Yes, I've definitely seen a difference. I've met people from all over who have come to town just to look around. If the casino wasn't here, we wouldn't have nearly as many customers," Sanders said.

But will the prospects of shared revenues, more jobs and increased business be enough to make a Lordstown gaming resort — just 50 miles from downtown Akron — or a casino anywhere in Ohio, a reality?

Gov. Taft is adamantly opposed to expanding gambling in Ohio. And twice before, in 1990 and 1996, Ohio voters rejected casino gambling proposals.

Still, it wasn't that long ago that Las Vegas and Atlantic City were the only two places in the country where you could gamble. In the last 20 years, 35 states have sprouted casino gaming establishments. More than 200 tribes operate casinos in 29 states, and those casinos, according to the California Nations Indian Gaming Association, bring in \$10.6 billion a year.

#### Gambling town

As for Mount Pleasant, one thing that sets it apart from the Ohio towns considering casino proposals is gambling had been a fixture in the area since the 1980s.

Thomas said the tribe "ran a bingo hall for a number of years," and at one point offered drive-in bingo.

"They projected the numbers on a big screen and you would honk your horn when you had bingo," Thomas said. The tribe still operates a bingo hall, which is housed in its own impressive building directly across the street from the Soaring Eagle resort.

Preston, the Mount Pleasant city manager, admitted that the prospect of expanding from a bingo hall to a casino did create a bit of controversy.

"There was some concern, so we had a study done," Preston said. "The conclusion of the study was that a casino would be positive, and it has been."

Anne and Ron Hagadorn would love to see Ohio open a casino.

"That would be awesome," Anne said. "It would be someplace else we could go."

And her husband assured: "We would definitely come to Ohio."

Carl Chancellor can be reached at 330-996-3725 or [cchancellor@thebeaconjournal.com](mailto:cchancellor@thebeaconjournal.com)

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005



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The Associated Press State & Local Wire

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May 9, 2005, Monday, BC cycle

**SECTION:** State and Regional

**LENGTH:** 448 words

**HEADLINE:** New card games a hit with players

**DATELINE:** OKLAHOMA CITY

**BODY:**

Card games being offered at Indian casinos in Oklahoma seem to be a hit with players, who no longer have to travel to other states to do this kind of gambling.

"It's more laid-back here than in Vegas," said Gary Means, a blackjack regular at Lucky Star Casino near El Reno. "Vegas is so cutthroat, people won't talk to you."

Poker and blackjack are allowed under compacts between tribes and the state after Oklahoma voters in November approved the expansion of Indian gaming. In exchange for the new games, agreements with the tribes give the state a share of the gaming profits and some oversight.

The state anticipates making about \$70 million a year from the expanding gambling, including new electronic games. The money will go to education.

Poker players pay the casino a fee ranging from 50 cents to \$5, depending on the ante for each hand. The casino, or "house," keeps 90 percent of that fee and pays the state the rest.

For instance, if six players are at a \$10-ante table, the house might collect a \$1 fee from each, or \$6 total, and remit 60 cents from that hand to the state.

As with poker elsewhere, players compete against each other.

Blackjack players compete against the dealer's hand, but the house doesn't have a financial stake in the outcome. Instead, players are assessed a seat-rental fee on each hand. The house keeps that money.

Because the odds are with the dealer to win more often than he loses, the casino will have a stash of money made from losers at the end of each day.

Under agreements with the state, casinos must pay 10 percent of that excess to the state. Of the remainder, the house can reimburse itself for the cost of operating blackjack and must return the rest to players as bonuses and prizes.

Thunderbird Casino near Norman opts for one huge event. During its first two months of card games, the house had accumulated more than a \$250,000 pool from blackjack player losses, casino manager Gary Green said.

He used that money to stage a blackjack tournament that paid the winner \$100,000. Thirteen other players shared the remaining \$150,000, Green said.

Lucky Star manager Brian Foster has a dozen blackjack tables and last week opened a poker room holding 11 tables. He hopes to knock out some walls to add 20 to 30 more.

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May 9, 2005, Monday, BC cycle The Associated Press State & Local Wire

The Cherokee Nation's Catoosa casino has 36 blackjack tables and 39 poker tables, the most of any Oklahoma casino. Future plans include a high-stakes room and pai gow, an Asian form of poker whose popularity has reached Las Vegas.

Green's casino has 28 card tables and plans to add more.

Information from: The Oklahoman, <http://www.oklahoman.com>

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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Belleville News-Democrat

May 9, 2005 Monday NONE EDITION

**SECTION:** ;Pg.

**LENGTH:** 823 words

**HEADLINE:** Mom paved the way to success for many drivers;  
They often helped them learn to compete

**BYLINE:** BY RICK MINTER; Atlanta Journal-Constitution

**DATELINE:** DARLINGTON, S.C.

**BODY:**

You wouldn't dare call someone who drives a race car 200 mph a "mama's boy," but in many respects the term fits a lot of those who do.

As Nextel Cup drivers prepared for a rare Mother's Day weekend race, many of them paused to give their mamas credit for their competitive spirit and to thank them for the sacrifices they made to get their sons to NASCAR's elite circuit.

Stanton Barrett, like lots of his peers, followed his father into the sport. But he said most of his will to win and desire to compete at the highest level comes from his mother, world-class skier Penny McCoy.

McCoy was on the U.S. national alpine team from 1965-69. She was on the World Championships team in 1966 that went to Portillo, Chile, where she became the sports youngest medal winner, taking the bronze in slalom at age 15.

She continued to ski competitively for years, winning several Masters events. She also runs marathons, enters Ironman events and rides cross-country mountain bikes at age 54.

She helps manage Mammoth Mountain, her family's huge ski resort in California's Sierra Nevada mountains.

"She's an amazing woman ... just a phenomenal athlete," said Barrett, who drives the No. 36 Chevrolet in the Busch Series and the No. 92 in cup. "Just to see somebody like my mom at her age still riding motorcross bikes with us and mountain biking and running and keeping at a pace that is respectable for anybody is amazing."

Chasing athletic legacy

Barrett has yet to achieve the success in his sport that his mother did in hers. His best Busch finish was a fifth at Atlanta Motor Speedway in 1994, and his best cup run was a 30th at Phoenix earlier this season. But there's not a hint of envy on his part.

"We both competed at the highest levels of what we do, and that is very rewarding," he said. "She's had a lot more success in her career. She was the best woman skier in the world, pretty much. She trains hard, and she's passionate about what she does. She's very, very competitive. That's inspiring."

But in many ways, McCoy is a typical racing mom. She worries about Stanton and his brother, David, whether they're racing cars, skiing or riding motorcycles.

"She likes racing, but she hates seeing me out there," Barrett said. "When there's a wreck she freaks out. I think I get more phone calls than anybody in the garage, just from my mom. At the end of the race, I'll have 12 messages, and they're all from her."

Throughout the garage, there are stories of mothers who stayed out of the limelight but worked hard to get their son's

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careers in high gear.

Tony Stewart said his mom, Pam Boas, deserves a medal of her own — just for putting up with him.

"Anyone who could actually raise me and not want to kill me or kick me out of the house has got to be a very patient person," Stewart said, adding that his mother always has been one of his biggest supporters.

Jeff Gordon said his mother, Carol Bickford, was instrumental in getting him in his first quarter-midget race car — she thought it was safer than the BMX bikes he'd been riding — and has backed him since.

"She's probably more of a mother today than she ever has been," Gordon said. "As I get older, I continue to recognize the importance of how I was brought up and who really means the most to me in my life.

"She's an amazing person, and I see our relationship grow all the time where I can go to her and talk to her about things that you didn't even think of as a kid. As you get older, you realize that your parents are a lot smarter than you thought they were."

Defending Nextel Cup champion Kurt Busch said he and his brother Kyle, a rookie on the circuit this year, owe a tremendous debt to their mother, Gaye Busch, who has played a big role in their careers.

"Back in Vegas, she even went back to work so that she could help us pay our tire bills to race," Kurt Busch said. "Her dedication speaks for itself."

Thanks, Mrs. Earnhardt

Ida Compton, whose son Stacy has raced in the Busch and Cup Series, is known throughout the garage for being a caring mom away from home for drivers and crew members.

"I pray every day for all the teams — not just Stacy's — to have a safe weekend," Ida Compton said.

Perhaps the greatest contribution by a NASCAR mother came in the winter of 1973, when a recently widowed woman sold off some of her late husband's assets and spent the money on a top-notch pavement race car for her son, then an aspiring but struggling dirt-track driver.

The woman's name: Martha Earnhardt. Her son: Dale Earnhardt. The car: A 22-time winner driven the year before by Harry Gant.

Veteran motorsports writer Bob Moore said no race fan should ever underestimate Martha Earnhardt's role in her son's career, which saw him run his first cup race two years after he began racing Gant's old car.

"If it wasn't for Martha," Moore said, "Dale's career could have come to a screeching halt before it ever got started."

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Copyright 2005 Midland Independent Newspapers plc  
Birmingham Post

May 9, 2005, Monday

**SECTION:** First Edition; FEATURES; Pg. 10

**LENGTH:** 527 words

**HEADLINE:** SARAH EVANS: VIVA LAS VEGAS - BUT NOT IN BRUM PLEASE

**BYLINE:** SARAH EVANS

**BODY:**

It is my 'disgusted of Birmingham' week. Well, perhaps disgusted is a bit strong but definitely disappointed.

If you have got to have big shopping centres and clearly every town and city feels it does, the Bullring must be as good as it gets.

I like best the central bit where you walk down and see Selfridges, St Martin's and the open markets all in one vista. It captures an inclusivity that very few shopping areas have.

But I was not a happy shopper when I walked into Selfridges on Saturday and was immediately confronted with a Casino. It had 'Casino' emblazoned in gold letters against a casino-ishy black background. It had men in bow ties sitting at tables with cards and counters and dice.

The wall was painted with suspect quotations attributed to unknown but clearly unwholesome men.

It did stop me in my feverish rush to ladies fashion, but time is of the essence and I was accompanied by my reluctant shopper husband, so I whisked onwards and upwards. Still, no one could fail to notice everywhere references to Las Vegas and poker games.

Las Vegas is not on my ten places to visit before I die, list. It certainly isn't on my husband's who believes that it is unlikely to beat the West coast of Scotland. However, such was the time I took in the changing room, in desperation, he filled in a 'Win a Holiday to Fabulous Las Vegas' form (second prize, two holidays in Las Vegas, he glumly assured me). In the course of doing this, he discovered my initial conclusion that Selfridges had become a den of iniquity, supported by Birmingham City Council's licensing department, was a little premature.

Selfridges is having a Vegas Supernova three weeks. We have 'glitz and glamour showgirls', look/sound-a-like Frank Sinatras, Tom Jones' and Elvis'. 'A shrine', the glossy leaflet told us, 'to the most explosive star of all the cities and remember...what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas', - a rather mystifying piece of PR as, in this case, it clearly hasn't.

Anyway in the small print, this leaflet informs us that the poker game is in fact a lesson - no real gambling takes place.

So that's alright then.

It's education.

Poker is undergoing a ghastly surge in popularity - televised high prize tournaments, internet games are getting huge take-ups and Selfridges is glitzing it up no end.

'For Vegas chic, take a seat and learn how to play poker with our expert croupiers', we are exhorted. The whole shop is covered with adverts for Party poker. If you are sophisticated, fun and stylish you will play poker is the clear message to the young clientele Selfridges is seeking to attract.

I am divided between dressing as a nineteenth century, non-conformist Birmingham city father, marching up and down and proclaiming the sins of gambling, or becoming a Sylvia Trench look-a-like( 'I admire your luck,Mr.....?'



'Bond. James Bond') sashaying into Selfridges, cigarette in hand, draped in her red silk, off the shoulder number from Dr No and demanding to play.

I'm not sure which would alarm Selfridges more.

Sarah Evans is a freelance writer specialising in community and social affairs topics

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Copyright 2005 Network World, Inc.  
Network World

May 09, 2005

**SECTION:** BACK NEWS; Pg. 62

**LENGTH:** 954 words

**BYLINE:** Paul McNamara

**BODY:**

A string of Interop moments

Heard - and overheard - at last week's Interop conference in Las Vegas:

John Chambers is no Bono, notwithstanding his being introduced as the network industry's answer to the U2 frontman. (For one thing, it's impossible to imagine Cisco's CEO dropping an F-bomb on national TV.) But Chambers does possess a compelling stage presence, which was on full display as he preached the gospel according to Cisco during the show's kickoff address.

"Everyone here wants to talk about technology," Chambers said on one of his numerous forays out into the audience, which even included a rather risky leap off the stage. "But what will cause people to spend money is improving their entertainment, their healthcare or their business productivity."

And golly-gosh if it isn't Cisco technology that will, in his estimation, bring about those improvements.

Like many practiced public speakers, Chambers leans a bit too heavily on favored rhetorical devices. For example, he used this phrase on at least six occasions after laying out a premise: "You know where I'm headed with this."

You did know, too, although Chambers is apparently convinced that such is not always the case with Cisco customers. As a result, his company is about to become more of an open book, he promised.

"We're going to start sharing with you more and more of where we're headed" with product road maps. "You will see us be more open on where we are in market share."

I half expected the crowd to start singing "Beautiful Day."

No one would dare to compare Scott Kriens to a rock star, but that wasn't going to stop the Juniper CEO from beating a drum for his company during a keynote address that opened Day Two of the conference.

Kriens as a keynoter might best be described as articulate and earnest, which is a polite way of saying he's no ball of fire.

"What is the industry doing? Is it consolidating?" he asked rhetorically. "My answer is yes and no."

What he meant was that the answer is really yes, but that doesn't mean you should buy all your stuff from Cisco.

Blaring U2 music at the close of his address was a nice dig at Chambers, though.

Equivocation was not an issue during an educational session about spam.

"Users are stupid," said Mirapoint product manager John Veizades. His proof - not that anyone in the audience was demanding any - is a recent study showing that 10% of e-mail users actually have bought goods or services offered through spam. In other words, we all know people who've done it, and that's sad.

In addition to a dearth of common sense, a lack of effective e-mail authentication is undermining anti-spam efforts. To illustrate the point, VeriSign principal scientist Phillip Hallam-Baker told a tale of his two telephones that before the

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institution of the do-not-call list received an unwanted solicitation "only about once a fortnight." One phone number he placed on the list; the other was left unprotected. The first gets no junk calls now, and the second gets about three a day. His point: E-mail desperately needs its own Caller ID.

Also desperately needed is more discretion by cell phone users.

"It's an extremely hard thing to prove that our box caused their downtime," said one indiscreet user within my earshot.

The man wasn't suggesting that the cause of the downtime was any mystery to him. He was merely taking comfort in the idea that the uncertainty of others would be his friend. Had I seen his conference badge, you might all know the vendor's name right now.

Getting your name known - in a good way - is Job One for vendors at Interop. Banners and posters are plastered over every inch of the convention center. One marketing message even stared up at me from, of all places, the top of a urinal. Printed on white vinyl the size of a drink coaster, the pitch read: "This probably isn't the best place to sell you penis enlargement. Neither is your e-mail. We take care of that." We in this case would be the folks at MailFrontier.

Another educational session attempted to answer the question: "WiMAX: The Next Big Thing?" On the panel were representatives from six vendors - Intel, Qualcomm, Sprint, 3Com, AirTight Networks and Alvarion - all of which have some stake in the matter. To say they're bullish might be the safest bet in Vegas.

The group's rough consensus? Fixed WiMAX will be a slam-dunk in broadband-poor locales and for certain urban uses, while the ultimate embrace of mobile WiMAX remains a bit more of an open question.

Jeff Belk, a Qualcomm marketing executive, came closest to offering a genuinely discouraging word: "You're not going to go from standardization to millions of units without going through the kinds of painful steps that every other wireless technology has gone through."

AT&T technology guru Hossein Eslambolchi loves WiMAX, too, and he just can't say enough good things about IP, in general. For example, there's his oft-repeated contention that "IP will eat everything," which he repeated once again during his Interop keynote address. Eslambolchi also told an anecdote about VoIP sparing Martha Stewart the indignity of a Virginia telephone exchange by bringing her tony 212 New York number to her since-vacated jail cell.

Who had the biggest booth with the fewest visitors? That looked to be MCI's ghost town. Completely unfounded, though, were rumors that the booth had been physically seized by Qwest CEO Richard Notebaert.

And then there was this bit of unexpected advice: A 3Com presenter bid farewell to his assembled audience by urging them to "have a safe show." . . . I guess it really is a jungle out there.

Did anyone find the shirt I lost in Vegas? If so, the address is [buzz@nww.com](mailto:buzz@nww.com).

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

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Copyright 2005 The Daily Oklahoman  
The Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City, OK)

May 9, 2005 Monday  
City Edition

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 1A

**LENGTH:** 738 words

**HEADLINE:** Winning hand ;  
Legalization of card games drawing thousands to casinos

**BYLINE:** Tony Thornton, Staff Writer

**BODY:**

Despite dropping \$80 in two hours, Gary Means' face bore a wide smile.

It was, after all, a happy day of losing at the Lucky Star Casino near El Reno.

The Canadian County resident has become a blackjack regular since the tribal-owned business received authorization last month to offer card games.

"It's more laid-back here than in Vegas," Means said. "Vegas is so cutthroat, people won't talk to you."

Instead, he spent last Wednesday afternoon in jovial camaraderie with his competitors.

Means is hardly alone. Thousands of Oklahomans are staying put to gamble on cards these days. Others from surrounding states are crossing the border to play, rather than traveling to places like Shreveport, La.; Biloxi, Miss.; and Kansas City, Mo.

State government – and more than a dozen casinos – are reaping the benefits.

Through March, the state had collected \$853,294 for the first two full months of player fees since the games became legal. That money is earmarked for education.

State Finance Director Scott Meacham thinks the state's share will exceed \$70 million a year as card games expand and, more importantly, as gaming tribes install lucrative electronic machines that weren't legal until voters passed State Question 712 in November.

Small learning curve Poker played in Oklahoma is identical to that offered elsewhere, players and casino experts say.

Players pay the casino a fee ranging from 50 cents to \$5, depending on the ante for each hand. The casino, or "house," keeps 90 percent of that fee and pays the state the rest.

For instance, if six players are at a \$10-ante table, the house might collect a \$1 fee from each, or \$6 total, and remit 60 cents from that hand to the state.

As with poker elsewhere, players compete against each other.

Blackjack is a little trickier. Players compete against the dealer's hand, but the house doesn't have a financial stake in the outcome. Instead, players are assessed a seat-rental fee on each hand. The house keeps that money.

Because the odds are with the dealer to win more often than he loses, the casino will have a stash of money made from losers at the end of each day.

Under agreements with the state, casinos must pay 10 percent of that excess to the state. Of the remainder, the house can reimburse itself for the cost of operating blackjack and must return the rest to players in the form of bonuses and prizes.

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Different casinos handle this differently.

"We like to give a lot of prizes," said David Stewart, chief executive officer for Cherokee Nation Enterprises.

That means promotional hats and jackets, plus bonuses of \$25 or more for drawing certain hands.

Thunderbird Casino near Norman opts for one huge event. During its first two months of card games, the house had accumulated more than a \$250,000 pool from blackjack player losses, casino manager Gary Green said.

He used that money to stage a blackjack tournament that paid the winner \$100,000. Thirteen other players shared the remaining \$150,000, Green said.

What does the future hold? Oklahoma legalized casino card games during what many view as the height of the poker craze.

Meacham doesn't think interest has crested, but even if it does soon, he said, the state can fall back on revenue to be generated from video poker and other newly legal casino machines.

Most gaming tribes are awaiting certification of those games, which are far more profitable for casinos – and for the state – than card games are.

Meanwhile, casinos are riding the wave.

Lucky Star manager Brian Foster has a dozen blackjack tables and last week opened a poker room holding 11 tables. He hopes to knock out some walls to add 20 to 30 more.

The Cherokee Nation's Catoosa casino has 36 blackjack tables and 39 poker tables, the most of any Oklahoma casino. Future plans include a high-stakes room and pai gow, an Asian form of poker whose popularity has reached Las Vegas.

Green's casino has 28 card tables and plans to add more.

The new games clearly have attracted new gamblers. Often it's a husband playing poker while his wife sits at a machine.

But there are exceptions. Dee Daniels and her husband spent more than four hours Wednesday in the Lucky Star poker room. It was their fifth visit in two weeks.

The 69-year-old great-grandmother from Newcastle isn't keen on the fee assessed to blackjack players, but it's not bothersome enough to keep her away.

For the sake of their marriage, Daniels and her husband have but one rule.

"We never sit at the same table," she said.

**GRAPHIC:** Under the tutelage of instructor John Anderson, right, Geneva Hungary trains to become a Texas Hold 'Em dealer at the Lucky Star Casino near El Reno. The casino's poker room opened last week amid a card craze that has proven lucrative for Oklahoma casinos and state government. – BY STEVE GOOCH, THE OKLAHOMAN

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Copyright 2005 The Deal, L.L.C.  
Daily Deal/The Deal

May 9, 2005 Monday

**SECTION: NEWSWEEKLY****LENGTH:** 669 words**HEADLINE:** Macau's big bet**BYLINE:** by Shu-Ching Jean Chen in Hong Kong**HIGHLIGHT:**

Dealmaking in the Chinese enclave surges after a gambling industry liberalization.

**BODY:**

After years of being outplayed by Hong Kong, much is coming up aces for Macau these days. The former Portuguese colony witnessed a 100-fold increase in M&A totals between 2001 and 2004. Now, Macau dealmaking this year is set to eclipse last year's total because of the April 19 agreement by Hong Kong-based K. Wah Construction Materials Ltd. to buy 97.7% of Galaxy Casino SA for \$2.4 billion.

The 10.5-square-mile territory in the South China Sea has long been where Hong Kong residents go to gamble. But after its return to China in 1999, tourists began pouring in from southern China. In 2001, China broke the 40-year casino monopoly held by gambling kingpin Stanley Ho, prompting dealflow boom from about \$400,000 in 2001 to \$412 million in 2004, according to Thomson Financial.

The enclave, which has a long tradition of laissez faire, allowing prostitutes, loan sharks and gangsters to prosper alongside croupiers, began luring operators such as Las Vegas Sands Inc. and Wynn Resorts Ltd., which have begun forging their more conservative brand of entertainment. "Since the return of Macau to China, the dynamics of Macau have greatly changed," says Hong Kong resident Stephen Clark, managing director of Hong Kong-based Anglo Chinese Corporate Finance Ltd.

As it awarded casino licenses to U.S. operators and Galaxy, Macau launched an effort to attract real estate investors from mainland China and Hong Kong. But for all Macau's potential to rival Vegas as the world's gambling mecca, fears of an economic slowdown in China and uncertainty over gambling regulations cloud the outlook. Macau is now the only Chinese territory where casinos are allowed. Potential investors also worry about Macau's stability. Debt collection, for instance, is not regulated – a legacy of Macau's past. "This is a new market. It's quite risky," says Joseph Lau, a fund manager at Sun Hung Kai Securities Ltd. in Hong Kong. "The regulations and prices are not transparent."

Lau notes the difficulty of buying real estate in Macau, which lacks an official system for registering transactions and making prices public. Such opacity partly explains the absence of corporate investors from Hong Kong, such as Li Ka-Shing's Cheung Kong (Holdings) Ltd. or rival property conglomerate Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd. The major transactions in Macau in recent years are small and concentrated in casino and gaming-related services. The exception was Galaxy, in which K. Wah Construction will buy a 97.9% stake mainly from its own controlling shareholder – the family of founder Lui Che-woo. Lui and his family own 74% of Galaxy and control K. Wah Construction.

Another rarity: the \$213 million acquisition announced in November of several Macau real estate companies by Hong Kong-listed Shun Tak Holdings Ltd. Shun Tak, which Hong Kong-based Platinum Securities Co. Ltd. advised, is run by Pansy Ho, one of Stanley Ho's 17 children.

No analyst would say whether speculation could create a bubble. But the pace is expected to quicken as casino construction peaks in the next two years. Macau requires Galaxy to invest at least \$4.3 billion by 2006. Galaxy plans to spend \$5.7 billion over five years, including a plan to expand from 63 gambling tables to more than 800 by 2007.

Daily Deal/The Deal May 9, 2005 Monday

Deutsche Bank AG says Macau's annual gambling revenue could nearly double, to \$9.6 billion, from \$5 billion now (compared with Las Vegas' \$5.3 billion), supported by per table take nearly 7 times higher than Las Vegas and a spread to the mass market. That would reflect a compounded annual growth rate of 18% between 2004 and 2008.

David Faulker, a director at real estate consultancy Colliers International, predicts a near 10-fold rise in five-star hotel accommodations, to more than 3,000 rooms. He says China would try to limit mainland tourists to Macau to contain negative repercussions from gambling.

"Unless for some reason investment plans get halted, there will be pretty substantial growth there," says Brian Coulton, a Hong Kong-based analyst at Fitch Ratings.

URL: <http://www.TheDeal.com>

LOAD-DATE: May 7, 2005

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Daily News Record

May 9, 2005

SECTION: Pg. 11 ; ISSN: 1041-1119

IAC-ACC-NO: 132302916

LENGTH: 984 words

**HEADLINE:** VIVA LUXE VEGAS; HIGH-END RETAILING SCORES BIG AT THE WYNN, PUTTING A NEW SPIN ON SEPARATING HIGH ROLLERS FROM THEIR MONEY.

**BYLINE:** Tschorn, Adam

**BODY:**

Byline: Adam Tschorn

**LAS VEGAS** — When the Wynn Las Vegas opened at the stroke of midnight on April 28, it added 2,716 guest rooms, 22 new eateries, 18 holes of golf — and 75,000 square feet of retail space called the Esplanade — to the nation's fastest-growing city.

The \$2.7 billion Wynn project also brought back a sense of style, reflected in the Chanel-inspired suits worn by the women at the concierge desk and the John Varvatos jackets sported by the casino dealers.

The Esplanade is a gently curving, glass-topped crescent of retail space, located at Sands Avenue and Las Vegas Boulevard, that evokes the shape of the 50-story hotel towering behind it. One end of the retail corridor is near the casino floor and the other is steps from the Fashion Show Mall (accessible across the street via a pedestrian bridge), making odds about dead even that a visitor will lose his spending money to a two-armed cashier instead of a one-armed bandit.

The men's wear mix includes some notable names, including Jean Paul Gaultier, Brioni and only the second stand-alone Dior Homme boutique in the U.S. Terri Monsour, the Wynn's senior vice-president of retail, described the men's wear strategy. "We're trying to bridge the gap for the gentleman that has to come [to Las Vegas] to work," she said. "We want to be able to offer everything from Ted Baker to Zegna. We have a lot of executives coming here."

Monsour said 30,000 people a day are expected to walk the Esplanade, and not just to window-shop or gawk at the man-made waterfalls: In the first 12 hours it was open, the in-house Ferrari dealership sold three kid-size racecars at \$9,000 apiece, and w.ink, a shop stocked with high-end writing implements, sold a \$47,000 David Oscarson fountain pen. "This is very much a city of instant gratification," said Monsour.

That type of shopping attitude — and foot traffic — made the Wynn a draw for companies like uber-luxe label Brioni. "There is nothing typical about Las Vegas," said Brioni chief executive officer Umberto Angeloni, in town for the opening. "It is unlike any other place — even night and day have no meaning here. The single purpose of this city is to entertain yourself, and shopping is very much a way to luxuriate and entertain."

At 5,500 square feet on one level, the retailer's fifth U.S. store has the largest footprint of Brioni's boutiques worldwide (the L.A. store is almost twice the size, but it's spread over three floors). Angeloni forecasts that longer opening hours (from 10 a.m. to midnight seven days a week) and the rapid turnover in the tourist population will make it the best per-square-foot performer of the company's 25 stand-alone stores.

The Las Vegas Brioni store is about 70 percent men's and 30 percent women's, and offers a range of the brand's suits, tuxedos, dress shirts, accessories and women's wear. "We don't expect to sell a lot of suits," Angeloni said with

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PC-00808

a chuckle. "But perhaps we'll sell more accessories and more 'festive wear.'" The boutique's selection for the opening included a Persian lambswool tuxedo jacket (\$ 29,000), an alligator-skin duffel (\$ 14,000) and an iridescent, salmon-colored cashmere blazer for \$4,000.

At Dior, representatives cited the influx of international clientele and the booming Vegas economy as motivations behind a third Vegas location, at the Wynn. Dior has brought to Vegas its second Dior Homme boutique in the U.S. (the New York City store opened in March 2004). Designed by Hedi Slimane, the space is a minimalist, black-and-white lacquered box that offers the full men's line, including ready-to-wear, jewelry, watches and leather goods, in 900 square feet. The back wall is composed of 12 backlit shelves showcasing eyewear. Shelving, racks and light fixtures are similar-sized white rectangles; the floor is black granite, making the store feel slightly like an outsized piano keyboard.

What really sets the Wynn apart is its below-the-radar retailing: the high-quality goods found in the drugstore, gift shop, pro shop and resort shop. These stores, located across the casino floor from the Esplanade, bring Wynn's "best of the best" luxury mantra to hotel sundries such as shaving cream (Truefitt & Hill and Santa Maria Novella) and souvenir hotel-logo T-shirts (Bogner).

It's also apparent in the merchandise at Mojitos Resort Wear, a multibrand store, which is about 60 percent men's, that sells golfwear by Rosasen, J. Lindeberg and Burberry Golf; denim by AG Adriano Goldschmied, Rogan, Zegna and John Varvatos; suits from Zanella, Cucinelli and Zegna, as well as Pantherella socks, Vilebrequin swim trunks and wovens by Ted Baker, Arnold Zimberg, Malo and Theory.

The Wynn is the midway point in a luxury retail boom that began with an additional 175,000 square feet that opened at the Caesars Forum Shops in October 2004. Wynn's next resort project, Encore (scheduled to open in 2008 next door to the Wynn Las Vegas), will add another 9,000 square feet. Add the 300,000 square feet at the Palazzo resort being built across Sands Avenue, and the result is nearly 2.3 million square feet of retail that will be clustered around the intersection at the northern end of the Strip.

#### Wynn-ing Numbers

Any gambler in Las Vegas knows that numbers tell the story. Here are a few of Wynn's important ones:

Number of man-made mountains: 1

Dollar cost (in billions): 2.7

Retail shops at the resort: 30

Acres taken up by the finished resort: 217

Amount (in dollars) it will cost to tee off on the new golf course designed by Steve Wynn and Tony Fazio: 500

Number of rooms: 2,716

Approximate number of employees: 10,000

Square feet of retail space: 75,000

Caption(s): Clockwise from top left: The new Wynn Las Vegas; the Esplanade's luxe interior; the Brioni store; dealer wearing John Varvatos; the Dior Homme boutique

IAC-CREATE-DATE: May 16, 2005

LOAD-DATE: May 17, 2005

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Daily News Record

May 9, 2005

SECTION: Pg. 20 ; ISSN: 1041-1119

IAC-ACC-NO: 132302921

LENGTH: 1292 words

HEADLINE: CHINA, HARDLY ON THE CHEAP.

BYLINE: Gellers, Stan

**BODY:**

Byline: Stan Gellers

Have you seen the latest Chinese import numbers? What headline grabbers! During the first two months of this year, cotton knit shirts soared 2,229 percent, cotton trousers by 1,398 percent and underwear by 520.1 percent!

The numbers suggest we're drowning in cheap Chinese goods, but I think they're mighty misleading. In reality, it's the opposite that's happening in China.

China isn't all cheap. There's a surprisingly large upper and middle class, and the country has a growing appetite for luxury — especially men who can't get enough fashion/luxury labels. This is where the new gold rush is on for European fashion/luxury makers — Zegna, Burberry, Canali, Hugo Boss, Alfred Dunhill and more — sold in a network of posh retail stores in glittering malls.

But where are the luxury American brands? And when will fashion/luxury men's wear become a meaningful export from China? With the high-flying euro walloping Italian exports in particular, this might not be a rhetorical question.

First, for the apparent lack of American fashion/luxury men's wear brands in China: The real reason is that there aren't that many to export. Just shop The Collective show in New York or The Exclusive in Vegas and it's obvious that while U.S. companies shine in upper-moderate to better men's wear, it's pretty tough to duplicate expensive European celebrity names at either show.

But what are the American luxury leaders — and we have several, notably Oxxford and Ralph Lauren Purple Label — doing about China? They don't sell China or have stores in the country as yet, but I'll just bet the country is on their agenda for future development. IAG, Oxxford's parent, is already selling fine fabrics to China via its Holland & Sherry operation.

The flow of Chinese fashion/luxury men's exports to the U.S. and Europe might turn out to be another growing story. It's happening, but in very small numbers. European technicians are on hand at the factories, the best of the world's fabrics are finding their way into Chinese factories, and it sounds like the top European companies are sitting on the sidelines getting ready to pounce.

**SOME OF THE ISSUES AT HAND**

Start with the Made-in-China label. It isn't much of an issue for retailers in classifications like sportswear or outerwear, but that phrase is a no-no in better tailored clothing, insist manufacturers.

Robert Burke at Bergdorf Goodman and Tom Kalendarian at Barneys agreed that point-of-origin isn't that critical. What matters, they stressed, is the luxe brand name.

Which brings up the old story that a number of luxury brands have been sourcing in Spain, Portugal and Mexico,

among many other countries, for years. And it's no big deal.

Ironically, the overblown state of the euro and the soaring prices in Italy might actually solve some of the problem of point-of-origin, forcing upscale manufacturers to source in lower-wage countries. With its neighbors becoming more competitive, China might miss out on some of this business. In the meantime, things are getting better constantly in China — both the prices and the quality of manufacturing.

#### DESIGNERS DESIGNING IN CHINA?

Are there any actually living there? David Chu, who now has his own Made-in-Italy collection, says, "For the most part and even at the high end, the designers are more like merchandisers. At the high end, Chinese manufacturers are working with designs from the U.S.A. and Europe. So there's not much 'creating.'"

I also know a 32-year-old ex-Texan, Gary Osborne, who's about to break that rule. This month he's moving to Xiamen, an industrial city that's 45 minutes by air from Hong Kong, to become the chief men's wear designer for Ports 1961. This former Canadian company is based there and manufactures luxury men's and women's wear for its 300 stores in China. Men's wear will follow the company's women's to the U.S. in fall '08.

Osborne describes Ports' target customer as "the seasoned, 35-year-old-plus traveler who wears clothes that are a cross between Alfred Dunhill and Asprey."

Interestingly, the company went for his background at Nordstrom as an in-house designer, his experience designing classic opera costumes, and his latest stint doing edgy contemporary sportswear for Republica.

#### HOW CHINA IS BETTERING ITSELF

I did my own quickie survey on "the new, improved China," and began with Neema's Jim Ammeen, who's been making clothing in China since '96. Right now he's in a transition stage focusing on better quality. His decision? More canvas and less fused clothing, and he's thinking cashmere and camel-hair sport coats.

"We've added a number of better brands and had to upgrade everything," he explains, "and for this year 75 to 80 percent of our clothing will retail from \$300 to \$700. The prospect of fashion/luxury goods from China? This will take a lot of hard work and a lot of real tight control, but it's approaching."

His comment about the Made-in-China label: "Sure, there has been static, but it's changing, and since we've been in China and they've gotten better, the comfort level has increased."

I asked designer Henry Jacobson whether China was synonymous with cheap and he snapped, "I get better service and better quality out of my Chinese partners than I do from the Europeans when it comes to cut, make and trim. And naturally, there are cost savings." He makes everything from shirts and sportswear to tailored clothing, and works with 10 factories.

Jacobson said that, at his better price level, a negative reaction to the Made-in-China label is occurring "less and less, and only at top specialty stores with a great affinity for Made-in-Italy labels. What's happening now is that the same stores are beginning to look for opportunities to buy luxury goods made in China with European piece goods and components as a way to offer the better customer a better value.

"Because of the euro's exchange rate, which is so out of whack, even the better consumer is having a hard time understanding the price/value proposition for Made-in-Italy apparel." He sources his own fabrics, yarns and leathers from all over the world, mostly from Europe.

Adds Richard Kastleman of Directions Studio, "China is the new Land of Better. We're able to make high-end leather outerwear there in factories with Italian technicians on hand. China is changing in another way, too, with the rise in the small boutique factory in joint ventures with Koreans. They're equipped for small runs — at higher prices — but it's a boon to better-priced companies."

He says the trend to better is history repeating itself. "We're seeing a rerun of what happened in Japan in the early '70s, and Korea in the late '80s. It took both countries about eight years to get into better products. I think it will take China only one or two. They have money to buy the expertise and equipment to do it."

Still, higher prices could be a stumbling block for China and divert more sourcing to competitive countries. It can start with the product itself, says Neema's Ammeen. "We're putting more into our clothing and, by definition, it will cost



more. Second, the threat of safeguards will drive up prices through legislation here or in China with self-controls and a reduced number of exports."

He also mentioned other reasons for higher prices, like the possible upward revaluation of the Chinese currency, supply-and-demand pressures as everybody rushes to China, and the limited number of topnotch factories in place.

I could go on, but the reality is that China is the world's new Pandora's box for better apparel. Who will pry it open?

Comments? Write to Stanley.Gellers@fairchildpub.com

**IAC-CREATE-DATE:** May 16, 2005

**LOAD-DATE:** May 17, 2005

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Daily Variety

May 9, 2005, Monday

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 1

LENGTH: 965 words

HEADLINE: Vegas bets big on Wynn wonder

BYLINE: NICOLE LaPORTE

BODY:

LAS VEGAS — Steve Wynn has returned to Las Vegas' center stage — and he has to be a little nervous.

"There's always an awkward moment when you change from a construction site to a living, breathing hotel," Wynn said late Saturday night at the inaugural bash of La Bete, the nightclub of the Wynn Las Vegas, the hotel impresario's latest, long-awaited addition to the Strip since the Bellagio went up in 1998 and Wynn's Mirage Resorts was bought out by Kirk Kerkorian two years later.

Wynn was referring to all the kinks that need to be worked out when a 2,716 room hotel is suddenly open for business. He was also referring to the anticipatory hype surrounding anything with the Wynn name on it (in this case, quite literally); people want to know what he's doing this time.

In answer to that, at least as far as La Bete was concerned, Wynn continued, "That's why I asked Brett Ratner to help put this party together." The "Rush Hour" director, Wynn said, represented "the energy that this hotel symbolizes."

Indeed, the Bete bash was rather Ratneresque. The helmer was there, along with producer Peter Guber and film mega-financier Steve Bing, all boogying down to a live performance by Mary J. Blige, followed by a Wallflowers set.

Outside, a three-tiered waterfall spilled down the hotel's signature creation — a 140-foot man-made mountain that adds to the Strip a dose of Aspen and ostensibly shields the casino from the rest of Vegas.

Wynn, 63 and nearly blind due to an eye disease, sat grinning, surrounded by handlers in dark suits. His wife Elaine, in a white gown and weighty jewel earrings, stood behind him.

New look

The evening characterized what Wynn is doing on a larger scale, which is looking to draw a younger, hipper crowd than he sought with his earlier hotels, beginning with the Mirage in 1989 and followed by Treasure Island, in 1993, and the Bellagio, in 1998.

With those resorts he transformed the \$5 buffet Strip into a combination of family-friendly attractions (amusement parks) and more adult expectations (high-end shops, pricey rooms).

That has remained the predominant tone in Vegas since Wynn exited the limelight five years ago.

His return has generated much buzz, though the question remains, can he pull it off, or will this investment lead to another buy-out? And is the new hotel-casino all it's cracked up to be?

Last year Wynn's company, Wynn Resorts Ltd., reported a loss of \$205.6 million. And while the company's stock reached a \$76 high this year — up from its \$12 initial public offering in 2002 — it's since dropped to its Friday close of \$48.

Wynn is not through. Next year the \$1.4 billion Encore, an all-suites hotel, will open adjacent to the Wynn, along with a \$700 million casino in Macau.

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PC-00813

Daily Variety, May 9, 2005

At the \$2.7 billion Wynn, whose sleek, coppery tower stands 50 stories tall and commands the central part of the Strip (it's on the site of the legendary Desert Inn), there are still fancy shops and rooms, but the hotel has a more brash, whimsical tone than the Bellagio, which it most resembles. It also has the boutique-like whiff of Ian Schrager.

#### Wowy colors

The color scheme is a punchy mix of reds, lime greens and purples, offset by somber chandeliers and marble. Morcheeba plays in the elevator. Warhol prints line the guest rooms.

"It's for trust-fund Gen X-ers," said one Wynn Resort shareholder. "I prefer the Bellagio, but my kids would love it."

Yet despite all the chatter over the revolutionary Wynn, a week after opening, the hotel was not quite booked to capacity and — mountains and color schemes aside — in the end it does not stray all that radically from the Bellagio, from its flower-filled atrium to the Mediterranean-style canopies hanging above the gaming tables.

Even the hotel's main entertainment attraction is in keeping with the Wynn tradition of smaller, less colossal acts.

Rather than booking headliners, like Caesar Palace's Celine Dion show, the Wynn's main event is "Le Reve," a water-centric performance by Franco Dragone, former creative director of Cirque du Soleil; show premiered Friday.

The show is an extension of sorts of "O," Dragone's other water-inspired show at the Bellagio.

"Le Reve," however, is more intimate than its predecessor — the show takes place in a theater-in-the-round, though in this case, the stage is a pool filled with a million gallons of water.

"In 'O,' water was a dramatic ingredient," Dragone said, "The water here is part of the show as a very active, predominant player... The water is something tender, something strong. It can be a source of life."

In "Le Reve" ("The Dream") — which would more aptly be named "Le Hallucination" — a squadron of muscle-sculpted men and women flip, dive and splat into the water from trapezes, spinning globes and rotating carriages.

The show's logline — "A small collection of imperfect dreams" — predicts, or perhaps justifies, the eclectic nature of the, by turns, whimsical, jaw-dropping and eerie shows-within-the show, all flamboyantly costumed and moodily scored. (Dragone's longtime collaborator Benoit Jutras composed the score).

Opening night was not without its mishaps. Mid-way through the show the theater lights went up and an overhead voice alerted the audience that there was a fire alarm. Within a minute, the voice reassured the audience that all was well, and the lights dimmed. It was later revealed that the alarm was caused by an overly sensitive smoke detector on a fog machine.

Dragone said that the show — much like the hotel — was still growing into itself and smoothing out its wrinkles.

"It takes at least six months to figure out," he said. "A live show needs to live. You never stop working on the show. If you stop, it will die."

**LOAD-DATE:** May 8, 2005

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eWeek

May 9, 2005 Monday

SECTION: OPINION; Pg. 58

LENGTH: 516 words

HEADLINE: Kattus Interoptus;  
Geek revival; shtick of Chambers

BYLINE: Spencer F. Katt

BODY:

From: spencer\_katt@ziffdavis.com

Sent: Monday, May 9, 2005 12:13 AM

To: eWEEK readers

Subject: Geek revival; shtick of Chambers

"Wynn, schmynn," sneered Spence, dissing Steve Wynn's recently opened \$2.7 billion Wynn Las Vegas resort. "Gimme my Blue Hawaii Room at Viva Las Vegas Villas any day!" The dulcet-toned Drudge crooned the "Hawaiian Wedding Song" as he strolled down Las Vegas Boulevard last week to attend this year's tiny but still nerd-filled **Interop** show. Even though event organizers were touting a 10 percent increase in attendance and 35 more exhibitors than last year, moving the event from the gargantuan Las Vegas Convention Center to the more manageable Mandalay Bay seemed a wise move.

A show insider told the Kitty that 40 attempts to hack the InteropNet had occurred before Tuesday morning, when the event officially opened. "It's like a superpower," touted the Interopian tipster. "Hackers are targeting the cream of the crop and testing their skills against the best!" Keynote speaker **Sean Maloney**, general manager of Intel's mobility group, spent most of his time hyping WiMax by hooking up via camera phone to a minion stationed on a Vegas rooftop and allowing attendees to check out what traffic was like on the strip. Seeing that traffic wasn't too congested, Maloney quipped that the commute home at the end of the first day of Interop didn't look too bad. The demo apparently was tapping part of a network that will eventually be available to local subscribers, although no time frame for when the service will be available was given. As Cisco's CEO, **John Chambers**, talked up innovation and interactive networks during his keynote, the fidgeting Furball realized he still hadn't adjusted to Chambers' Jerry Springer-like habit of networking event audiences over the last few years. "What's next—Scott McNealy or Bill Gates crowd surfing?" cackled the Kitty.

**Juniper Chairman** and CEO **Scott Kriens** used his keynote to mock Chambers, saying that if attendees wanted to see Bono or win a free iPod—both past Cisco promotional gimmicks—they were out of luck. On the show floor, big-iron boxes from Cisco, **Foundry** and **Extreme** didn't seem to thrill attendees as much as the \$288 DV6 camera from **SupaCam** did. The SupaCam reps couldn't swipe credit cards fast enough to keep up with demand. His Hirsuteness envisioned the fun he could have with such an easily concealed videocam in Vegas, but envisioning how to hide it on his T&E was another issue.

The **Electronic Lifestyle Integration** folks pushing their ELI home security appliance also seemed to attract a lot of traffic. ELI recently raised its status big time by making security guru **Howard Schmidt** (formerly of eBay) its chairman. Just before the Baron of Babble headed for the blackjack tables, a crony told him that **MediaLive International** announced it plans another Interop for December in the Big Apple. "I dunno," laughed the Lynx. "Geekfests that happen in Vegas should stay in Vegas."

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PC-00815

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

# **INDEX 278**



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Copyright 2005 Forbes, Inc.  
Forbes

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** Pg. 54 Vol. 175 No. 10

**LENGTH:** 420 words

**HEADLINE:** This Is Your Brain on Clicks

**BYLINE:** Lea Goldman

**HIGHLIGHT:**

Should there be methadone for Internet addicts?

**BODY:**

Suddenly, everybody's talking about Internet addiction. What's next—methadone for mouse fiends?

Some parents send their kids to camp to drop a few pounds, learn guitar or belt out standards from the *Pippin* songbook. Not in Beijing, where the Communist Youth League reportedly hosted a weeklong camp in April for a dozen or so kids addicted to the Internet. So severe is the problem—some 15% of Chinese adolescents are said to suffer from "Internet addiction disorder," according to the China Internet Information Center—that Shanghai elementary school students are now subject to lectures on broadband burnout in addition to the usual antidrug admonitions.

What's the worst that could happen—a nasty case of carpal tunnel syndrome? Tell that to the Finnish army, which over the last five years has recused a dozen or so would-be military conscripts from mandatory service because of their Web fixations.

Last spring Hong Kong launched its own public service campaign. No surprise: Its deputy government chief information officer warned that 40% of his city's youth were addicts. Stateside, Netheads at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and the University of California, Irvine provided on-campus counseling for incessant clickers.

All that for a medical condition that you can't find in the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases or in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, the bible of the American Psychiatric Association.

Still, between 5% and 10% of Web surfers suffer a Web dependency, according to experts like Maressa Hecht Orzack, director of the Computer Addiction Study Center at Harvard's McLean Hospital. They experience the same cravings and withdrawal symptoms as, say, a compulsive gambler waylaid en route to Vegas. She refers most of her Net-addicted patients to psychiatrists for prescriptions for antidepressants and anti-anxiety meds.

Soon it could be even easier to get scrip. Dr. Eric Hollander of New York's Mount Sinai Medical Center is currently treating 22 supposed addicts with Lexapro as part of a clinical study sponsored by Forest Laboratories, which markets the antidepressant.

Turning off the monitor won't do the trick, say doctors like David Greenfield, assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. Greenfield worries that junkies are finding new ways to score a fix from their cell phones and Treos. "All these devices do the same thing—they numb people from their pain," he says.

**LOAD-DATE:** April 25, 2005

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Furniture Today

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 313 words

**HEADLINE:** Bedding majors flock to Vegas

**BYLINE:** By David Perry

**BODY:**

Las Vegas-Bedding companies Englander and Stylution USA will exhibit at the inaugural market here in July.

Top 10 producer Englander said it will have a space at the Sands Exposition Center. Stylution USA, marketer of a line of Chinese-made mattresses, said it will show in temporary space at the World Market Center.

The July 25-29 event is shaping up as the strongest bedding lineup at any major market.

Top 10 producers Simmons, Serta, Spring Air, Tempur-Pedic, King Koil and Therapedic will all be showing here this summer, as will No. 11 Restonic. That leaves Sealy, the industry's largest player, and Select Comfort and Kingsdown as the only Top 10 players that will not be in Las Vegas in July.

Englander Vice President Dave Clark said the company will have a 4,000-square-foot space at the Sands center, which is providing temporary space. He said the showroom will be a duplicate of the company's High Point space.

"I hear a lot of buzz about Las Vegas," Clark said. "There will be a lot of people going out there. Who knows what the future holds in Las Vegas, but there will be a buzz about it for the next three or four years."

He said Englander has no plans to exit the High Point market, where it shows in Plaza Suites.

Ed Scott, CEO and president of Stylution USA, said the line will make its U.S. debut in Las Vegas.

"We think Las Vegas will be an invigorating show," Scott said. "We think the attendance will be high. The furniture industry has been waiting for Las Vegas for a long time. We think there will be a lot of retailers there."

He said Stylution will show innerspring mattresses which have been compressed for shipment to the United States, demonstrating that such an approach can be utilized successfully for imported mattresses.

Scott said Stylution is considering showing at High Point this fall, and plans to set up a Chicago-area office and showroom by June.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

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Furniture Today

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 33

**LENGTH:** 153 words

**HEADLINE:** LaMarche expands; to show in Vegas

**BYLINE:** Staff

**BODY:**

Lake Forest, Calif.-Occasional and accent furniture resource LaMarche has expanded its headquarters here, and plans to show at the inaugural Las Vegas market in July.

The company will show in suite 450 of the World Market Center in Vegas.

LaMarche has showrooms in High Point and Dallas and attends shows in Atlanta, Denver, San Francisco and Chicago.

The company added a 50,000-square-foot building, increasing total facilities in Lake Forest to 120,000 square feet, including a manufacturing warehouse, design studio, showroom, executive offices and conference room.

LaMarche also consolidated operations, closing its New Jersey office. "Having all these operations in one location not only allows for greater control, but helps us maintain the sense of family that has been central to the company since its inception," said President Robbie LaMarche.

The company was founded by his grandfather, Peter LaMarche, in 1982.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

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Copyright 2005 The National Journal Group, Inc.  
The Hotline

May 9, 2005 Monday

**SECTION: NATIONAL BRIEFING****LENGTH:** 1112 words**HEADLINE: DEMOCRATS: IS THERE A MUZZLE BIG ENOUGH?****BODY:**

Del Sol High School juniors were prepared to hear Sen. Min Leader Harry Reid discuss the checks and balances in gov't, but instead got "a good lesson in partisan politics" when Reid called Pres. Bush "a loser." Reid went on to say "I think President Bush is doing a bad job" (Neff, Las Vegas Review-Journal, 5/7). Aides said Reid realized immediately that he overstepped. After first trying unsuccessfully to reach WH CoS Andrew Card, Reid spoke with WH Dep CoS Karl Rove and apologized (Allen, Washington Post, 5/7). RNC comm. dir. Brian Jones issued a statement calling Reid's comments "a sad development but not surprising from the leader of a party devoid of optimism, ideas or solutions" (Las Vegas Review-Journal, 5/7).

The comment "violated restraint that the opposition party customarily exercises" when a pres. is abroad. It also comes in the wake of "essentially" calling VP Dick Cheney a liar just two weeks ago and two months after calling Fed Chair Alan Greenspan a "political hack" (Washington Post, 5/7). When asked what he would do if GOPers invoke the nuclear option: "We won't shut down the government, but President Bush will rue the day he let this happen" (Las Vegas Review-Journal, 5/7).

**CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

DNC Chair Howard Dean has given the DNC a new style from the days of ex-Chair Terry McAuliffe. Dean has taken the grassroots mentality from his WH bid and brought them to Washington. Rather than the "glitzy, big-donor events" favored by McAuliffe, Dean is "tapping small donors in unprecedented numbers" — a big change from the days of McAuliffe and his "entourage and a limousine." CQ's Crawford: "Dean may be the first grass-roots Democratic leader since Andrew Jackson let the mob trash into the White House for his inaugural."

Dean however faces a very different challenge than McAuliffe did in '00. Now on the same par as GOPers financially, Dems must now face the hurdle of restoring state parties in the South and West. Ex-DNC press secretary Jenifer Palmieri: "It was the right hand-off at the right time." However pollster John Zogby cautioned that "the occasional flaring of Dean's partisanship"

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could "undermine" his efforts at restoring the party's fortunes (Shepard, Austin American-Statesman, 5/8).

#### WHAT HAPPENS IN VEGAS ...

Head of five unions — "the Teamsters; the laborers; the food and commercial workers and the hotel, restaurant and apparel workers" — plan to gather in Las Vegas today to discuss whether to back a challenger to AFL-CIO pres. John Sweeney in his bid for a new four-year term. The leaders will discuss strategies to revive organized labor in the wake of Sweeney's recent reorganization that resulted in layoffs and budget cuts. One idea on the table is having Unite Here pres. John Wilhelm run against Sweeney. Several Wilhelm allies said that he would like to run, but his support is limited to less than 40% of members. The vote will take place in 7/05 at a convo in Chicago. Sweeney has said he has the race locked up.

The fight over the computerized political lists has also aggravated tensions. Those lists have made labor's GOTV operation one of the Dems' biggest assets. Officials from the Teamsters and several other unions complained that the AFL-CIO had not shared with them information it had gathered to help its political efforts, like whether union members in certain states had gun licenses (Greenhouse, New York Times, 5/8).

#### IF YOU CANT TAKE OVER THE DNC...

On 5/10, NDN will announce a major new initiative, The New Politics Institute (NPI). NPI "will be the Think Tank for Politics, helping devise and promote new strategies to help progressives succeed in the emerging political battleground" (release).

#### CATCH-22

American Prospect's Meyerson writes that one of the great issues facing the AFL-CIO now is coming from within the org. The reluctance of the SEIU pres. Andy Stern to make a commitment to either Wilhelm or to even stay in the org, at all makes it increasingly difficult to successfully direct the AFL-CIO in a new direction. "The SEIU's indecision has posed an obstacle to a Wilhelm candidacy." But even deeper than that "the SEIU's indecision is one of the many reasons why the current split in labor is a good deal murkier than the split of 1935 (5/05 issue).

Stern's top comm. advisor Ben Boyd in response to Meyerson's article, "Mr. Stern has given Mr. Wilhelm his every assurance that if he runs on the right platform that he will certainly support him and he will remain in the federation" ("The Note," ABCNews.com, 5/9).

#### LESSONS FROM DOWNING STREET

Washington Post's Balz reports: Even "a damaged" British PM Tony Blair and the Labor Party "offer lessons that analysts on both sides of the Atlantic say could aid" the Dems in '06 and '08. Despite losing seats, Labor's three consecutive victories



"constitute a record the party had never achieved" and one Dems haven't realized since FDR. For Dems, the significance of Labor's win "may lie as much in the ability of Labor to win an election at a time when its leader was so personally unpopular."

Blair won a landslide in '97 "by moving to the middle." In power, the party "has governed with a mix of liberal and conservative policies and an eye on 'middle England.'" BBC analyst/Essex Univ. prof. Anthony King: "They've done an amazing job of being successfully centrist."

Blair has kept the Tories at bay "by never surrendering the issues where Labor ... has natural advantages." The economy has been the party's number one priority. The mix of spending and reform "has been broadly acceptable" to the U.K. Labor "also has played aggressively on the opposition's turf," blunting a Conservative attempt to "tap into anti-immigration sentiment with policies designed to protect Britain's borders while making the case that immigration is good for the country." DLC pres. Bruce Reed: "Blair has left the right with no openings."

The irony for Dems is that Blair and finance min. Gordon Brown found their winning formula by studying the '92 "New Democrat" campaign of Bill Clinton. "Few strategists "believe a simple return to Clinton's centrist ... formulation ... by itself will get the Democrats out of the doldrums." But the records of Blair and Clinton "suggest that an opposition party must recognize its weaknesses and do something about them and know its strengths and never abandon them." Some Dems conclude that the route back to power may be an "energized, progressive, grass-roots army. ... But the U.S. and British elections suggest that is only a partial answer."

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Copyright 2005 The National Journal Group, Inc.  
The Hotline

May 9, 2005 Monday

**SECTION: NATIONAL BRIEFING**

**LENGTH:** 4327 words

**HEADLINE:** BLOGOMETER: THE Times SPARKS A FREE-FOR-ALL

**BODY:**

The Hotline's Blogometer takes the daily temperature of the blogosphere. For more information on the thinking behind this feature, go to the end of the story.

Almost every blog we surveyed had at least a link to the New York Times' article which, among other things, called on bloggers to adopt a code of ethics. Virtually no one who commented on the piece agreed with it, and instead bloggers ratcheted up their criticism of MSM journalistic techniques. The most common critique of Adam Cohen's work, and one with some merit, is that he makes sweeping generalizations of bloggers as a whole, and makes a few unsubstantiated statements as fact. The fundamental issue is, What exactly are blogs: a news source? Marketplace of ideas? MSM watchdog? Whether or not you agree with Rosen might depend on your answer to that question.

Elsewhere, Senate Min. Leader Harry Reid (D) and Sen. Chuck Hagel (R-NE) are the focus of filibuster discussion today based on weekend comments. Reid's "inflammatory" remarks are not necessarily shocking anyone, but Hagel's apparent dissent from the rules-change camp and reference to the GOP's blocking of ex-Pres. Clinton nominees draws heavy criticism from the right. Lots of WH'08 buzz today, focusing on Sens. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and John Kerry. Arianna Huffington's new blog project debuts. Plus: Blogs know all your secrets.

**TRACKBACKS:** THE ONLY THING BETTER THAN READING A New York Times OP-ED, IS DEBUNKING A New York Times OP-ED

Where the blog swarm is headed, who's taking part, and what they're saying:

o New York Times "Editorial Observer" Cohen's piece about blog ethics is the hands-down biggest topic. Linking: Ezra Klein, The Moderate Voice, Eschaton, The Anchoress, Oh, That Liberal Media, Buzz Machine, Little Green Footballs, The Mahablog, "Roger Ailes", Asymmetrical Information, Althouse, Ed Cone, James Wolcott, Ranting Profs, Corrente, Tim Worstall, Instapundit, Mudville Gazette, Rightwing Nuthouse, Ideoblog, Free Range Librarian. Worth noting also are the blogs who link to a separate story about a Times panel report on how to build

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credibility: Buzz Machine, Ranting Profs, The Anchoress, Volokh Conspiracy >> Citizen Z: "[I]n 969 words Adam Cohen fails to cite anyone but himself calling for a blogger code of ethics. Nor does he point out any examples where the lack of such a code has caused problems for bloggers or their readers. Instead we're spoon-fed MSM generalities." >> PoliBlog: "Mostly, the Cohen piece strikes me as an attempt by a member of the MSM to try and put bloggers 'in their place' — but without much to work with." >> Jeff Jarvis: Cohen is "trying to turn blogs into an institution, like journalism. But they are not. Blogs are all individual. ... Journalism is institutional, blogs are personal. Journalism has become dispassionate, blogs are passionate. Bloggers are just people, citizens, readers." o Filibuster talk is big this weekend. On the left, focus is on AP report about Hagel's apparent break with the anti-filibuster ranks. Linking: The Left Coaster, Talk Left, Daily Kos, Alabama-Democrat, Florida Blues, Tommy Wonk, The Political Puzzle v2.0. Questioning what Hagel is up to: Confirm Them, Blogs for Bush. The right is equally fired up by Reid's latest remarks about Pres. Bush and nominees, courtesy of the Las Vegas Review Journal. Linking: The Asylum, DC Thornton, Michelle Malkin, A Kiwi In Vegas, Keeler Political Report, RedState >> Liberal Daily Kos: "Hagel strayed way off the reservation, to the point of completely undermining the Republican argument about judges in this one, beautiful sound-bite." >> Blogs for Bush: "Is Harry Reid still in 5th grade? There is no excuse for such juvenile comments — while Bush is overseas no less." BLOGGERS VS. THE MSM: OC CONVENTION CENTER. IT'S ON!

New York Times' Cohen wrote: "Bloggers like to demonize the MSM (that's Mainstream Media), but it is increasingly hard to think of the largest news blogs as being outside the mainstream. ... Bloggers like to demonize the MSM (that's Mainstream Media), but it is increasingly hard to think of the largest news blogs as being outside the mainstream. ... The thing about influence is that, as bloggers well know, it is only a matter of time before people start trying to hold you accountable."

MSM outlets hold themselves to journalistic standards; "Bloggers often invoke these journalistic standards in criticizing the MSM, and insist on harsh punishment when they are violated," as in the case of Dan Rather and Eason Jordan. "But Mr. Rather's and Mr. Jordan's misdeeds would most likely not have landed them in trouble in the world of bloggers, where few rules apply. ... Many bloggers who criticize the MSM's ethics, however, are in the anomalous position of holding themselves to lower standards, or no standards at all. ... As blogs grow in readers and influence, bloggers should realize that if they want to reform the American media, that is going to have to include reforming themselves." (5/8).

Reaction was widespread. Mudville Gazette: "The blogosphere thrives because the mainstream media has failed to police itself. The blogosphere is self-policing and has been

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since day one – the endless variety of perspective, opinions, and voices ensures it. Cohen's effort to disparage those who are replacing him, to maintain some control of a dwindling readership and a diminishing importance is unsurprising but feeble."

Jesse Taylor writes on Ezra Klein: "I'm a bit torn about it. It's a lot hard to differentiate blog-to-blog than it is 'regular' media source to 'regular' media source. ... We could be held to the same standards that newspapers are, although there is no guild, no school of blogging, no way to train anyone to do it. There's also the fact that blogs are blogs precisely because they are a sort of unilateral fount of aggression – you find someone with a voice, a topic, and something to say that either pleases you or pisses you off, and you read them. ... And if you need any more evidence about how sordidly stupid this entire search for bloggers' responsibilities is," note that Wonkette editor Anna Marie Cox, who "at her peak, was more Lloyd Grove than Edward R. Murrow," was the only blogger interviewed.

Tim Worstall: "That he uses, as his first example of a blog The Drudge Report shows that he hasn't quite grasped the basics of the field, for of course Drudge is not a blog. ... In short, adopting the same system of journalistic ethics for each and every blog, for each and every blog post, would entirely cripple what blogs actually do."

Joe Gandelman: "The irony is this: We AGREE with some of Cohen's points about bloggers needing to live up to standards they demand of others. ... But Cohen's piece — which does attempt to be thoughtful — is so riddled with misunderstanding and generalizations about the nature of blogs and bloggers, where can we begin?" Gandelman then gives a point-by-point response to Cohen's claims.

"Attaturk" writes at Eschaton, on Cohen's statement that "more bloggers, and blog readers, are starting to ask whether at least the most prominent blogs ... shouldn't hold themselves to the same high standards to which they hold other media": "I've been reading Eschaton for about two years now, maybe more, I really don't remember asking this question, nor chatting in comments about such a thing — and what do we not talk about in comments? ... If you cannot read my blog, or others, and tell what is humor and what is a rant and understand what weight they should be given, perhaps you should just stick to reading Entertainment Weekly. But thanks for acting like you've thought up an actual issue Mr. Cohen."

PoliBlog: "If a major blogger had circulated false documents to damage either the Kerry or Bush campaigns in a manner similar to Rather, there is no doubt that they would have suffered the same kind of scrutiny and criticism." Little Green Footballs: "The blogosphere is merciless in such cases, and any well-known blogger who tried such a stunt would be discredited, probably within minutes, and never trusted again." Ed Cone: "Beyond the legal penalties for libel that apply to all

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publishers, the ethics of blogging have to be self-enforced. There is no mechanism for enforcement, other than shunning by the tribe, and there are many tribes online." James Wolcott: "Of course, we're all concerned about getting it right. I try to maintain this blog to the highest standards of borderline libel. But I would politely suggest that the Times fire Judith Miller before it presumes to lecture lesser mortals in a mealy-mouthed manner." Ranting Profs: "The central argument here is that as the blogosphere grows and develops, standards and practices, particularly ethical ones, will have to grow and develop as well. Good point. But what really seems to bother the writer is that, after all, traditional media outlets have corrections policies. That's almost laugh out loud funny."

Asymetrical Information: "Blogs are an active slice of the journalists' and politicians' own stakeholding public talking back to them and, for better or for worse, there's bugger-all Mr. Cohen and his ilk can do about it." Ann Althouse: "We only have the readership we can attract with the strength of our own writing. We have to build that readership and keep it with constant writing. ... It's all a matter of whether the readers stay or go. In a sense, we're constantly getting hired and fired in tiny increments as individuals decide whether or not to click to our sites one more time. ... And the great value of the blogosphere is that, in this difference, we are constantly engaged in creating something new. Is that hard for MSM to adapt to, to get a grip on?"

Rightwing Nuthouse: "I make no bones about the fact that I'm conservative and biased about everything I write. What else would you expect from a site named 'Rightwing Nuthouse?' I mean, it's not like I'm trying hide anything! Now, if I'd called the site 'Leftwing Whackjob' and then put out a lot of rightwing propaganda, The Times could then accuse me of acting shamelessly."

"Patterico" writes at Oh, That Liberal Media: Cohen "has no factual support for these statements." He drafted an e-mail to Cohen, but "wasn't able to send" it directly. He instead sent it to Dan Okrent, and "asked Mr. Okrent to forward the e-mail to Cohen, or alternatively, to respond to my concerns himself." Stay tuned.

Pejmanesque: "Would someone care to explain to me how we bloggers are supposed to 'reform ourselves'? Shall we call a convention? Shall we lobby for blogging legislation in Congress? What exactly can serve as a better modus operandi other than bloggers being judged for the quality of their work and then either receiving traffic or losing it accordingly?"

The Anchoress notes that the Cohen piece appeared the same morning the Times is "talking about taking steps to improve its credibility."

The one quasi-supportive post we could find belongs to Ideoblog: "But it doesn't follow that bloggers should shun the idea of a voluntary code of ethics. While the wide open market

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in which bloggers function ultimately corrects errors, no market is perfect, and there are potential costs on the way to eventual accuracy."

#### FILIBUSTER/JUDGES: TRAITOR!

Daily Kos' "QWQ" imagines a Dem ad using comments from Hagel on ABC's "This Week." "So much for the argument that Democrats have engaged in unprecedented obstruction by blocking 10 nominees. As Hagel makes clear, the Republicans' hands are even dirtier because they blocked six times as many Clinton nominees."

Blogs for Bush, on Hagel's comments: "Does Hagel understand that the Constitution clearly states that a judicial nominee is confirmed by a simple majority of the Senate? Doesn't he also understand that Frist is not suggesting that we eliminate all filibusters? The Democrats have given no legitimate reason to oppose any of Bush's nominees. They even opposed judicial filibusters in the past. This is not principled opposition. This is partisan skulduggery. How can Hagel give any credence to the Democrats phony position on this issue?" Keeler Political Report: "Hagel pretty much had no chance to win the Republican nomination, but after reading this article about what he said this AM about judges on the Sunday talk shows, he seriously has no chance."

Moderate OxBlob, on the Washington Post's solution: "It seems like such an obvious and reasonable solution. On procedural matters, it makes no sense for ideology to come into play, especially since the Senate is so closely divided that the beneficiaries of any rule change may quickly become its victims." Conservative Paul Mirengoff at Power Line: "The Post fails to acknowledge that the Republicans have offered a compromise that would put an end to all methods of obstructing an up-or-down vote, not just the filibuster. The Post also fails to acknowledge that, although the Republicans had a majority in the Senate for most of the Clinton presidency, the Senate confirmed a higher percentage of Clinton's court of appeals nominees than it has Bush nominees."

Captain's Quarters notes the support of Sacramento Bee's Ginger Rutland for nominee Janice Rogers Brown: "This is the real Janice Rogers Brown, not some bogeyman dreamed up by People for the American Way and Ted Kennedy. Even her presumed political opponents in the California state capitol know better."

Joshua Marshall observes upon his return to Talking Points Memo: "When I left a week ago, the Princeton Frist Filibuster site was still a hastily-thrown-together operation, mainly serving up a slow feed of some student filibustering Bill Frist. Now, it's a whole elaborate set-up, with a media archive, lists of upcoming speakers and events, links to filibusters at other campuses — amazing."

#### DEMOCRATS: WHEN HARRY GOT SILLY

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Pejman Yousefzadeh writes at RedState: Reid "is well-known for his inability to utter a cogent and coherent statement without eliciting laughter and guffaws at him. So I guess that it should come as no surprise that he is now calling judicial nominees with whom he disagrees 'bad people.' No one knows, of course, what on earth Reid means when he says that people like Janice Rogers Brown want to take us 'back to the Civil War days,' and frankly, it probably does not matter what Reid means or where he got the transcendently stupid idea that Janice Rogers Brown craves a return to antebellum America. It's probably just something his staffers fed him, and he took and ran with."

In a separate post, he questions why Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) can ask Bush for greater civility in the filibuster debate when Reid calls Bush a "loser." Hugh Hewitt: "On the appalling scale, accusing a distinguished African-American jurist of wanting a return to the era of slavery is simply reprehensible. Perhaps Senator Schumer would like to issue a statement on Senator Reid's disgusting attack on Justice Brown and the other nominees?"

DCThornton: "It's kind of amazing, though. For a 'loser', the President won re-election last November and his party holds majority in both the Senate and the House. So who's the real loser here — other than the people of Nevada who are stuck with an embarrassment of a man from Searchlight as our senior Senator?"

MyDD refers to a Cato study of GOP and big gov't and writes: "While it is pretty clear that libertarians such as Cato are upset with Republicans because even the rhetorical support for small government has died in the Bush administration, I think many on our side seem to make a mistake of believing that we can appeal to economic libertarians with a promise of fiscal responsibility. It isn't exactly a secret that expanding the role of the federal government in our economy is part of both the New and the Progressive Democratic message. I somehow doubt that libertarians will start to vote Democratic because while our support for universal health care cuts at every fiber of their being, they like the idea that we will balance the budget when we pass it into law."

#### HUFFINGTON: THE REVIEWS ARE IN

Power Line gives a pretty fair assessment of the Huffington Post, which launched 5/8: "The site's format is striking, with a home page that has the feel of a newspaper rather than a blog. Bloggers are featured down the left column of the home page, with a 'News wire' (headlines and photos linking to news stories) taking up most of the center and right columns; Harry Shearer's 'Eat the press' feature runs across the bottom of the center and left columns. The format is impressive and attractive. The blog contributors lean heavily to the Hollywood left, although David Frum and Michael Isikoff are visible exceptions today."



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Michelle Malkin comments: "Unlike a lot of observers, though, I don't think Arianna's going to fail. Arianna is very good at what she does, which is to collect people like curios and throw sprawling house parties for them—parties that attract never-ending hordes of looky-loos simultaneously bemused and repulsed by the grand spectacle of obsequiousness and megalomania dressed up as political dialogue." Keep an eye on Huffington Is Full Of Crap.

#### WHITE HOUSE '08: THE HILLARY PROBLEM

Right-leaning blogs are abuzz over a possible scandal involving Clinton's fundraising, as detailed by the New Orleans Times-Picayune, New York Sun and New York Times. Righty John Hinderaker: "I can't help wondering why none of this constitutes a 'scandal.' ... If the indictment of [House Maj. Leader Tom] DeLay's aides by a long-discredited Democratic activist in Travis County, Texas, is a big news story, then why isn't the indictment of Hillary Clinton's finance director by the Justice Department an equally big story?"

A few blogs think this report about a new ABC series featuring the first female POTUS is meant to warm Americans up to the idea of a Pres. HRC. Some are also observing chatter of her demise, courtesy of Time's Joel Klein.

Conservative blogs are amused by a Boston Globe article that details how John Kerry is "adopting the rhetoric of a D.C. outsider." WizBang: "I can see him as a Washington outsider. After all, during his last run for the presidency, he missed so many roll call votes that it's possible a good chunk of the Washington establishment forgot he was a senator at all." Ed Morrissey: "Who's he trying to kid? He is the political establishment, and an embodiment of the lackadaisical effort that so many like to lampoon about DC politicians."

Right Wing News analyzes his Top 6 GOP WH'08 candidates. Listed in order: ex-NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Sen. John McCain (AZ), Frist, Sen. George Allen (VA), Gov. Bill Owens (CO) and Rep. Tom Tancredo (CO).

MyDD looks at a Marist poll of '08 candidates. For Dems: "It is interesting that the Anyone But These Three group ('other') is not very large. In fact, Unsure plus Other still does not even equal [Sen. Hillary] Clinton's (NY) current total. ... Also, there are a lot of 'New Democrats' listed among possible contenders, but outside of [WI Sen. Russ] Feingold, whose divorce might rule out 2008, there do not seem to be much in the way of progressives. Someone will have an opening to unite that wing of the party."

On the GOP side: "The 'other' vote collapsed because they stopped using [Sec/State Condi] Rice in the question. Rice, with high name ID and darling status among the conservative blogs and neocons, would have probably been a serious contender. Of course, she is not going to run. I don't think McCain has a shot in hell (2000 was his only real chance), but I do think

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Giuliani has at least an outside chance to win the nomination. He could win the entire paleo-con and independent vote in the primaries, and with the theocon vote divided that might just be enough. "

Conservative Jeff Joyner at Outside The Beltway notes McCain's advice to John Kerry writes: "I don't think anyone's underestimating Clinton. His advice is surely correct, though. Indeed, Clinton has shrewdly focused on her Senate duties first, not only building chits within her party but demonstrating that she was more than a show pony. Kerry would be wise to do the same if he wants another shot at the brass ring."

Swing State Project notes a local story about Sen. Evan Bayh's (D-IN) WH ambitions and asks, "While using the DLC to raise a campaign profile was a smart move 15 years ago, does it really benefit a candidate in 2008 to be seen as the DLC candidate? The fundraising potential of the DLC is waning and far less critical than a successful online strategy. But it is the liability of being seen as the DLC candidate that interests me. In the 2004, the DLC ruthlessly cut down Governor Howard Dean in the primaries. In our recent DNC Chair election, bloggers had their first taste of payback by quickly destroying any potential the DLC's Tim Roemer might have enjoyed. But DNC Chair isn't nearly as important to Party direction as choosing the 2008 Presidential nominee and I have to think that being seen as the DLC choice would be the kiss of death for a candidate."

#### IN THE STATES: THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH

NC Dem chair Jerry Meek writes at MyDD about the NC resident thrown out of a church because he was a Dem, and makes an appeal for Internet support. Meek: "When FDR was asked about his philosophy, he said, 'I am a Christian, and I am a Democrat.' Today he would be unable to worship in a certain church in North Carolina. This is a travesty for all of us. I would so far as to say that it's downright un-American. And I want all Democrats, Republicans, and Independents to stand up and say that a citizen's place of worship should not depend upon one's political choice. After all, once we start down this road, what's to stop the government one day from intervening in our churches directly?"

Amanda Morcotte at Pandagon says "outing" people in general is a bad idea, but makes an exception in cases like that of Spokane Mayor Jim West (R): "I want conservative politicians outed for gossip reasons, of course. I'm human, after all. But mostly I want to stomp out disingenuous arguments. I want people to be afraid to lie. ... I want the fear of the lie to fall upon them, so that no one ever again pretends that we went to war with Iraq for a real reason and no one ever again pretends that he stands for 'family values' when he really just stands for himself."

Raising Kaine, claiming to be independent of any candidate, is keeping an eye on the VA GOV race in support of LG Tim Kaine

(D).

#### MISCELLANY: IMMIGRATION, TERRORISM AND UNIONS ALL IN ONE PLACE

Michelle Malkin attended a rally organized to protest against the RealID act, and offers some interesting insight.

Quite a few blogs link to a Times of London report that the capture of Abu Faraj al-Libbi, an alleged terrorist, may be a case of "mistaken identity." Eschaton: "So, the Bush Administration, once again, has falsely trumpeted some event as being a major victory. Our quality press, especially cable news, obediently complied, and after all the chest thumping has been hammered into what little there is of a typical viewer's memory it turns out to be — a gross overexaggeration." Winds of Change disputes the report. Brad DeLong asks, "How Many Number Three Men Does Al Qaeda Have?"

Bull Moose writes: "America needs a strong labor movement as never before. With the rise of the Bush plutocracy, there is no counter-balance to the power of money. Yet unions have been in decline for the past thirty years. In large part this is the product of the changes in the economy and de-industrialization. But the labor movement has been slow to respond to these changes. ... Andy Stern is an innovative thinker who is attempting to recreate the labor movement to adjust to the changing economy. He realizes that politics alone is not the answer to labor's woes and it must return to grass roots organizing efforts."

#### THOUGHT OF THE DAY: THEY'RE ALWAYS WATCHING

Mickey Kaus writes: "Today it's hard for politicians to wait out bad publicity because O.C.D.-like blogs are there to make sure the bad publicity doesn't go away. ... Example: How many days has it been since John Kerry said he'd sign Form 180 releasing his military records? Once upon a time an embarrassing promise like Kerry's might have been forgotten until the next campaign. Now he's nibbled to death by blogs."

#### LEST WE FORGET: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED?

This weekend was the Time Travelers Convention, as we alerted you to last week. Here's the update from the organizers: "The convention was a success! Unfortunately, we had no confirmed time travelers visit us. We did, however, have a great series of lectures, awesome bands, and even a DeLorean."

#### NOTES AND ERRATA

The Blogometer typically includes 3 primary features: 1) A short summary of what's happening in the blogosphere — taking the temperature, if you will. 2) "Trackbacks" shows what mainstream media stories are getting a lot of attention. 3) We quote more blogs than you can shake a stylus at to show what else people are talking about.

On style: Boldface and Italics: These represent people and

print sources just as in the rest of the Hotline.

**Boldface-Italics** indicate the name of a blog; because a blog is very often both a person and a publication, sometimes it's difficult to tell where the blogging persona ends and the person blogging begins.

Questions, comments, reservations? Drop us a line at [mmemoli@nationaljournal.com](mailto:mmemoli@nationaljournal.com).

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InfoWorld

May 9, 2005 5:00 A.M. (Vol. 27, Issue 19)

**SECTION: OPINIONS;****LENGTH:** 520 words**HEADLINE: EDITOR'S LETTER:** Fear and loathing at Interop**BYLINE:** Kevin McKean**BODY:**

"What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas" may be the rule for gamblers and dance club denizens, but I hope you'll forgive my passing along a few newsworthy items from the Interop show in that dusty desert outpost. Expanding government regulations continue to drive IT spending, as companies scramble to stay ahead of deadlines. HIPAA, for one, came to bear in April, requiring health-care organizations to encrypt all patient information sent electronically. Thus, for anti-spam/anti-virus vendors, the focus has shifted from scanning inbound mail to checking outbound messages for compliance. Mycom Group's mailMax, for example, automatically encrypts any message that includes a patient record number or other patient-identifying information. Security everywhere. Cisco's Adaptive Security strategy, unveiled by CEO John Chambers, ties together all the elements of corporate security — anti-spam/anti-virus, firewall, intrusion detection, and so on — into a single, comprehensive package for data, voice, and video. And, 3Com's acquisition of TippingPoint has given it a fast, network-centric, multicomponent security solution. Behavioral monitoring, integral to both of these initiatives, continues to make strides — particularly against the recent spyware scourge. "Even without knowing the spyware's signature," explains Tim McCormick, vice president of marketing at Lancope, a leading NBAD (network behavior anomaly detection) vendor, "We can detect and stop suspicious activity, like communications that happen even when your PCs are idle."

Wireless is fast becoming essential to corporate IT, as new standards such as WiMax loom, and older ones such as Wi-Fi come of age. One facet of the wireless realm, location detection, made its increasing sophistication known at the show: Cisco introduced a location appliance, and Symbol Technologies emphasized the importance of location awareness in network optimization and security. Particularly fascinating for me has been the ongoing war with rogue networks that spring up in and around the enterprise. One vendor waging battle, Network Chemistry, offers a solution that disables wireless intruders by listening for evidence of rogue connections to corporate devices, posing as a party to the intruders' conversations, and then spoofing a "disconnect" instruction.

**FINALLY, SINCERE APOLOGIES** to those turned away from our first SOA Executive Forum in San Jose, Calif., last week. We had to cut off registration a week early because so many people signed up that we were in danger of violating fire codes. As of this writing, a few spots remain for the companion event in

New York next week. But if we're unable to accommodate you this spring, rest assured we'll announce additional up-to-the-minute SOA-focused sessions later this year.

Kevin  
McKean is CEO and editorial director of InfoWorld.

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Copyright 2005 DR Partners d/b Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Las Vegas Review-Journal (Nevada)

May 9, 2005 Monday FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** E; Pg. 1E

**LENGTH:** 855 words

**HEADLINE:** GREAT OUTDOORS: Backyard Comfort

**BYLINE:** Heidi Knapp Rinella

**BODY:**

Noting what must surely be one of the slowest-building trends in human history, pop-culture types have been reporting to us for more than a decade the increasing American propensity for going back to the womb — the cocoon, the fireside — in an apparent search for comfort and security.

Now, it seems, we're taking it outside. And taking our friends with us. The living room is moving outdoors, with new — for the outdoors, anyway — styles of furniture, rugs, and even floor and table lamps.

'It makes perfect sense,' said Ron Smith, chairman of the department of sociology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, who is an authority in architectural sociology.

Smith noted that two of the primary elemental focuses of conventional interior design are natural light and water.

'If you bring the living room outside and you're able to use that kind of furniture outside, you're getting the natural light, which is very pleasing to the human eye,' he said. 'If you have any kind of fountain, any kind of pool — even any kind of pretense of it, with a dry riverbed — both of those are common elements that connect us to the earth.'

'Everything now is really conversational groups,' said Paulette Dias, casual-living expert with Paddock Pools, Patios and Spas in Las Vegas. 'People are going more with sofas and large club chairs and conversational tables. They're really putting a living room in their outdoors. We're selling lots and lots of that.'

'We have a lot of lamps in the store. They're really doing another living room outside.'

'What's really exciting for us is chat-height groups,' tables and chairs that are at coffee-table level, said Robin Wright, manager of Mr. Pool and Mrs. Patio in Henderson. 'We do real well with those.'

Many of the new designs are firmly in the luxury realm. Wright said the store's Harmony chaise is a double-chaise longue on wheels with a table in the center and an umbrella that rotates 365 degrees. It sells for 'a little over \$5,000,' she said.

Dias said she thinks part of the reason for the outdoor-living-room trend is the fact that our weather is so pleasant much of the year. But she said weather also is driving a design shift.

'Especially here in Vegas, we're going away from glass-topped tables to stone, because of the winds here and because glass is so hard to keep clean,' she said.

'And the furniture is larger this year. It's heavier and larger.'

Chris Johnson, who co-owns Romanza Garden Living with Tim Dunnagan, sees a trend toward sleeker outdoor furnishings.

'We have some really interesting-looking zinc and steel containers,' Johnson said. 'They're very contemporary-looking, very unusual, and of course they hold up really well out here. The steel ones will rust, but they're supposed to. But the black zinc and silver zinc don't.'

Again, there seems to be a shift toward calming elements.



'We see a lot of people — especially the 30-somethings — moving toward more contemporary looks. There's a lot of interest in the Zen/Asian look,' Johnson said. 'That has a real twofold approach, because a lot of that can be very simple and very contemporary at the same time.'

We're adding light to our outdoor lives as well.

'We have some fire burners that are very cool,' Johnson said. 'They burn a gel. The containers that you drop the cannister in come in some very interesting shapes and sizes. It's kind of like a Stermo thing, but it doesn't burn quite as hot and it's a little safer, especially if you have children around.'

'We sell a lot of fire pits, too,' Dias said. 'That's mainly for when it's chilly.'

Johnson said it's important to consider the weight of an item because of our blustery winds, especially in spring.

'Pottery can be great out here, depending on what you get,' she said. 'Most of (Romanza's) pottery's from Southeast Asia. They fire their pottery at very high temperatures, so that water doesn't move through the pottery as easily. It makes the pots more dense. Mexican pottery has the tendency to be fired at lower temperatures and it falls apart more easily. 'And then there are the resin products and the reinforced concrete and Fiberglas pieces. We sell a lot of concrete containers that are also very good — they don't blow over in the wind. There's nothing worse than having a really nice topiary and have the wind blow the whole thing over and shatter the pot.'

Smith sees a link between the outdoor-living-room trend and the 'new urbanism' in architecture, which is highlighted by the return of porches and patios in home design to restore a sense of community and neighborliness.

'The reason for that, I believe, is a sense of nostalgia,' he said. 'A lot of times patios and porches connote things like safety and friendliness and neighborliness — and a remembrance, as well, of old times.'

But Smith said front and rear outdoor areas serve different purposes.

'The front is to meet people and see your neighbors and greet and bring about a sense of community,' he said. 'The back is used more for privacy and contemplation, for reading and more insulated kinds of functions.'

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Copyright 2005 DR Partners d/b Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Las Vegas Review-Journal (Nevada)

May 9, 2005 Monday FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** E; Pg. 5E

**LENGTH:** 651 words

**HEADLINE:** SHOOTING STARS: Production schedule boasts strong international flavor

**BYLINE:** Carol Cling

**BODY:**

Las Vegas' centennial birthday party guest list stretches around the world — and plenty of cameras will be rolling to commemorate the big event.

BBC World's 'Fast Track,' for example, begins a five-day visit Wednesday for a story keyed to Neon Nirvana's 100th birthday.

Unlike some travel shows that 'say how wonderful it is and give you a step-by-step guide on what to see and do,' according to the BBC's Carmen Roberts, 'Fast Track' covers travel news, 'focusing on issues confronting the travel industry, tourism, aviation as well as the business traveler.'

So, in addition to centennial activities, 'Fast Track' will tackle environment and conservation issues during its Vegas visit.

During her visit, Roberts hopes to interview Mayor Oscar Goodman, Betty Willis (designer of the iconic 'Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas' sign) and the Little White Wedding Chapel's Charolette Richards.

'Fast Track's' Las Vegas coverage is scheduled to begin airing on BBC World in early July.

And a re-creation of the 1905 land auction that marked Las Vegas' official debut, scheduled at 10 a.m. Sunday, will be filmed for use at the future Las Vegas Springs Preserve museum, according to producer Caree Davis of Playground Media Group, which is producing the auction footage.

A Japanese TV special, meanwhile, plans to focus on Las Vegas' 'Water Wizards,' from Bellagio's dancing fountains to mighty Hoover Dam.

The weeklong visit, which begins today, also will include a visit to the Grand Canyon, according to production manager Yuki Hayashi of the Idea Network, which is producing the 90-minute special for Nippon TV.

The show also hopes to film at the Strip's newest water wonder: Wynn Las Vegas.

Also from Japan, the comedy troupe Yoshimoto Kogyo (which some describe as Japan's 'Saturday Night Live') hits town to tape two separate television segments starting Sunday — and invites locals to attend both sequences.

Sunday's taping is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Sapphire Gentlemen's Club, 3025 Industrial Road. Because male dancers will be featured, show officials want to fill the audience with women and couples.

On May 16, the 8 p.m. Yoshimoto Kogyo taping will take place at downtown's Take 1 club, 707 Fremont St., with the focus on a segment titled 'Newlywed Strife.'

Those interested in attending either taping should call Take 1's Gary Sax at 433-8253 to reserve seats.

Speaking of 'Saturday Night Live' and Las Vegas, ex-'SNL' regular Jon Lovitz — currently a recurring character on NBC's 'Las Vegas' — will headline 'Lovitz Says,' a reality pilot scheduled to shoot here next week. The show, which combines game show and hidden-camera elements, reportedly puts ordinary folks in outlandish situations while cameras roll.

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Before the pilot arrives, however, casting officials are looking for locals who want to set up friends in one of two scenarios: a lesson from a golf pro and a blind date with a high roller.

The show needs 10 single males between 25 and 35 years of age and 10 single women between 20 and 30. All must have a great sense of humor.

If you're interested setting up one (or more) of your friends, e-mail contact information and photos of the friend(s) you want to prank, along with a brief history of your friendship, to reality casting2001@yahoo.com.

Returning to this week's location calendar, the locally produced feature 'Buckaroo' settles in at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park for its second week of production.

The contemporary Western, directed by local James A. Brooks, focuses on a troubled teen (played by Simon R. Baker of Steven Spielberg's upcoming 'Into the West' miniseries) who's 'sentenced,' after a run-in with the law, to turn his life around by working on a ranch.

Also on location here this week: HGTV's 'Landscapers' Challenge,' in which three landscape designers compete for a chance to revamp problem outdoor areas at local residences.

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Los Angeles Times

May 9, 2005 Monday  
Home Edition

**SECTION:** CALIFORNIA; Metro; Metro Desk; Part B; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 1517 words

**HEADLINE:** High-Speed Train Plan May Move Forward;  
Vegas-to-border leg may get funding. But it's still a long way from there to its Anaheim goal.

**BYLINE:** Dan Weikel, Times Staff Writer

**BODY:**

A partnership of government and industry in southern Nevada plans to spend \$1.3 billion to build the nation's first super-fast train.

Where do they want to put it after more than two decades of effort? From Las Vegas to Primm, a three-hotel sideshow on the Nevada-California border. It's best known for an outlet mall, the giant Desperado roller coaster and a bullet-riddled 1934 Ford that carried the infamous Bonnie and Clyde to their deaths.

Critics say the proposal is a train to nowhere. Supporters see a low-cost right of way through the desert that will lead to a revolution in ground transportation: the first commercially successful "maglev" — magnetic levitation — passenger service.

The vision belongs to a Nevada state commission that has tenaciously clung to the idea of building a 270-mile high-tech system from Las Vegas to Anaheim.

After almost 25 years of study and frustration, the project is now competing with Maryland and Pennsylvania for \$950 million in federal funds earmarked for maglev development.

The technology uses magnetic force to propel trains on a cushion of air down a guideway at speeds of more than 300 mph. Power comes from an electrical charge in the guideway that attracts magnets in the train, pulling it forward. Only one, in China, is in commercial operation.

"This is going to be an E-ticket ride," said Bruce Aguilera, chairman of the California-Nevada Super Speed Train Commission. "It is the modern equivalent of the iron horse."

Just four years ago, the Nevada proposal wasn't even in the running for federal money. The only finalists were a 39-mile line between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., and a 54-mile system between the Pittsburgh suburbs and the airport. Their estimated costs: about \$5 billion and \$4 billion, respectively.

But with the help of Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nevada) and Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska), the powerful chairman of the House transportation committee, Nevada might get its dream shot, perhaps as early as this month. The maglev is part of the massive transportation bill that has passed the House and is now pending in the Senate. Congress will decide which of the three maglev projects will be funded, and more than one may get the go-ahead.

The Las Vegas-to-Primm train would be part tourist attraction, part transit operation. If it is built, proponents in the Silver State hope it will encourage California to extend the line from Primm to Anaheim by 2015.

Trains would stop in Barstow, Victorville and Ontario before arriving in Anaheim, which is planning a regional transportation center to accommodate trains and transit buses.

The cost of the entire line has been estimated at more than \$12 billion. Financing is expected to come from government

funds, profits from fares and bond sales. Such a system, supporters say, would benefit tourism in Nevada and California, provide a competitive alternative to regional airlines and allow travelers quick access to Ontario International Airport.

Backers also predict that the new train would ease traffic on Interstate 15, a heavily traveled corridor from San Diego that leads to Las Vegas via the Inland Empire. No longer would motorists from Southern California have to drive four hours or more to reach Las Vegas or spend almost as much time flying from commercial airports with their heightened security, they say.

Maglev is expected to make the trip to Anaheim in 87 1/2 minutes. It would take just 12 minutes for the 40-mile hop to Primm, where a park-and-ride facility for motorists is planned.

The project would be built under a franchise granted to a consortium of companies, including General Atomics, Parsons Transportation Group, Hirschfeld Steel Co. and Transrapid International-USA Inc.

Transrapid, which is owned by Siemens AG and ThyssenKrupp AG in Germany, has designed the technology. The firm helped build China's maglev system between Shanghai and the city's airport 19 miles away. It attracts roughly 8,000 riders a day.

The consortium predicts that 13 million people will ride the Las Vegas-to-Primm line the first year of operation, providing a \$50-million annual profit. The complete system is projected to attract 39 million riders in 2015, generating more than \$500 million in profit.

Proponents hope to tap the enormous popularity of Las Vegas, which now attracts about 38 million visitors a year — 27% of them from Southern California.

Though maglev is the railroad equivalent of the supersonic Concorde, there is nothing fast about the effort to build the Nevada line, let alone the entire system.

Stalled by political setbacks and a chronic shortage of capital, not one foot of maglev guideway has been constructed after almost 25 years of study.

It was originally predicted that the system, which at one time included California and Nevada, would have been finished eight years ago. But the initial builder, giant Bechtel Corp., abandoned the project in 1991 because of a lack of capital.

California dropped out soon after, leaving virtually everything up to the Nevada commission, which has managed to secure support from government officials as well as small federal grants to keep the project alive.

Critics, however, aren't so sure the Vegas-to-Anaheim train matches the commission's bold comparisons to the first transcontinental railroad that helped build the nation.

Though maintenance costs are low, maglev is very expensive to build, they say, and there are more important transportation priorities in California than getting tourists to Disneyland or the craps tables a few hours sooner.

Skeptics further contend that the train will do little, if anything, to relieve the heavy rush-hour traffic on Interstate 15 during the workweek when it is crammed with trucks and commuters, not Vegas-bound tourists.

"There's not much possibility of this being a useful part of the transportation system," said Tom Rubin, a transportation consultant and former rail official in Los Angeles County. "Why do we want to throw scarce transportation dollars at a pie-in-the-sky kind of thing? Look at what's happened to the Las Vegas monorail."

After glowing predictions, the privately financed monorail has been troubled with mechanical problems and lower-than-predicted growth in ridership. In March, a major Wall Street ratings agency downgraded \$455 million in monorail bonds to junk status. A second ratings agency has issued warnings about its performance.

Monorail operators blame the setbacks on mechanical flaws that forced the system to shut down for 113 days last year. The system runs for about four miles from the convention center to hotels and casinos.

Critics say the maglev project could be plagued by the same unreliable cost and ridership projections — a common problem with rail projects.

There are other questions about whether the system will be profitable. A commercial passenger train has not operated in the black in decades. Even the most successful commuter rail lines receive significant government subsidies.

"The California-Nevada project predicts profitability. That will take a lot of doing," said Paul Taylor, a planning director at the Orange County Transportation Authority, which has backed the maglev system.

"There really has to be a market for this super-premium service."

Taylor, who has worked on the maglev proposal, said discount airlines are not averse to fare wars — a tactic that could "devastate" the demand for high-speed trains.

A one-way maglev ticket from Anaheim to Las Vegas will cost about \$60, project officials estimate. Today, a round-trip plane ticket from Los Angeles to Las Vegas can cost less, in some cases far less, than \$100.

Even if the market is there, the political and financial climate might not be favorable at this time for a massive investment in maglev technology.

California's support for high-speed trains has been wavering under the state budget shortfall. Last year, the state postponed a bond measure that would have paid for the first leg of a \$37-billion high-speed rail system from San Francisco to San Diego. A statewide vote on the conventional system could be delayed until 2008.

On the federal level, the Bush administration does not consider maglev trains a priority and has been trying to restrain spending contained in the massive transportation bill pending in Congress.

The House passed a \$284-billion version of the measure in late March after much delay. The Senate is now considering the bill. Bush has threatened a veto if spending goes too high.

Competition for a federal appropriation is expected to be intense, and there are no guarantees that any of the proposed maglev projects will receive the \$950 million needed for construction.

Nevertheless, Nevada officials are counting on Young and Reid to get their project adequate consideration. There is even talk that Young would like to fund projects on both coasts.

Young "has been our white knight, and Reid has been instrumental from day one," said Aguilera, of the Super Speed Train Commission. "As we move into the authorization bill, this is where Young will weigh in with his support. This will be largely up to Congress."

**GRAPHIC:** GRAPHIC: MAP: Super-speed (Proposed Las Vegas Primm leg) CREDIT: Los Angeles Times

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005



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Los Angeles Times

May 9, 2005 Monday  
Home Edition

**SECTION:** CALENDAR; Calendar Desk; Part E; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 1267 words

**HEADLINE:** ARCHITECTURE REVIEW;  
A glitch in the glitz ;  
The price tag is over the top, but Wynn Las Vegas' exterior isn't.

**BYLINE:** Christopher Hawthorne, Times Staff Writer

**DATELINE:** Las Vegas

**BODY:**

YOU'VE probably heard by now that the Wynn Las Vegas is something of a rarity: a new hotel and casino on the Strip that doesn't have an architectural theme, the way the Venetian, the Paris, the Luxor and countless others do. But it turns out the Wynn does have a theme — just a very odd one:

The theme is midrise office tower in Houston, circa 1983.

Those ubiquitous commercials may assure us that what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. But the only thing that appears to be happening behind the mirrored-glass windows of this 50-story, copper-colored behemoth, which cost a staggering \$2.7 billion, is some filing, memo-writing and worried talk about the state of the natural gas market.

Since this is Las Vegas, you could forgive a project of this scale and budget for being baldly derivative of some architectural masterpiece. You could understand total, unrepentant kitsch. Yet uber-developer Steve Wynn has decided instead to wrap the most extravagant creation of his career — a career that has been a case study in extravagance — in a determinedly banal architectural skin.

All that is forgotten, of course, as soon as you step past the man-made mountain that separates the curving hotel from the Strip — topped by hundreds of actual trees rescued from a redesigned golf course out back — and into a riot of entertainingly indulgent interior decor. It becomes clear quickly that you are not in Houston as soon as you reach the atrium. This is an only-in-Vegas garden setting, filled with an explosion of flowers, where the chirping sounds are produced not by birds but by slot machines.

And it becomes at least plausible that \$2.7 billion was spent on this place. There is raised ornament covering the ceilings and decorative swirls on the carpets that lead into the casino area. The marble floors are inlaid with mosaics based loosely on Matisse paintings. Only a color scheme of chocolate brown and cinnamon red helps moderate the tone.

That atrium lets some natural light flow into the casino itself, but not nearly as much as the Wynn's marketing effort, which seemed to promise a sun-splashed interior with views of the desert in every direction, led us to believe.

Because the design world continues to revolt against the high-end minimalism of the 1990s, the persistently luxe interiors of the hotel, which are largely the work of Wynn's longtime lead designer Roger Thomas and the Jerde Partnership, feel almost cutting-edge. The key word is almost, given the *deja vu* that descends in some of the hotel's grander exercises in scene-setting. Thomas' Lure lounge on the ground floor, for example, is little more than a shrine to the recent work of Philippe Starck, particularly his designs for the Hudson Hotel in Manhattan.

The Wynn's most expensive restaurants, which include a desert outpost for the French chef Daniel Boulud, are pushed

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right up against the mountain. They offer dramatic views of the design's centerpiece: a series of waterfalls that pour down the mountainside and into a wide reflecting pool, which hotel officials would prefer you call a lake.

Upstairs, the rooms, with floor-to-ceiling glass, offer some staggering views of the Strip and surrounding mountains but also show signs that work crews rushed to finish them. The elevators go all the way to floor 60, but that's only because the numbering system skips 40 through 49 altogether; Chinese gamblers consider the number 4 unlucky.

Wynn himself, of course, is not directly responsible for the architecture of his new hotel. That high-pressure job went to an in-house team of architects led by DeRuyter Butler. But like Steve Jobs, who has claimed design credit for the smart minimalism of the Apple stores, Wynn is not exactly the kind of boss who is liberal in spreading credit around.

The architects who work for him understand from the outset that their designs will be merely one cog in a gigantic and hugely impressive marketing machine. Wynn's name goes on the facade, the roulette wheels, the coffee cups and the shampoo bottles. Butler's name didn't even make it into the press kit.

For a while, actually, it wasn't going to be Wynn's name in those spots: It was going to be *Le Reve*, French for "the dream" and the title of a 1932 Picasso portrait that Wynn owns. (Along with several other paintings from Wynn's collection, including works by Rembrandt and Vermeer, it is on view in the hotel's small art gallery. Admission is \$15.)

But then the war in Iraq began, and relations between the U.S. and France soured.

"The name *Le Reve* is very closely tied to France, which was an opponent to our political approach to Iraq," Butler, the architect, told *Lodging*, a trade magazine for the hotel industry. "It wasn't anything derogatory toward France, but Mr. Wynn started to look at other potential names."

Clearly, he didn't have to look far. "*Le Reve*" wound up becoming the name of the hotel's main stage show; there is also a theater being built on the site for a Las Vegas version of the puppet-satire "*Avenue Q*."

Las Vegas has always been an architectural world unto itself. Tourists and French philosophers alike make pilgrimages here to gawk at its grand simulations and its almost-real skyline. Even if it's getting denser and more like a big city, for better or worse — the population of Las Vegas and surrounding Clark County is rapidly approaching 2 million — you can't apply the same set of architectural standards you would in another American metropolis. What would be ridiculous elsewhere can still be weirdly thrilling here, especially when it's set against the Strip's backdrop of funhouse urbanism.

Still, it comes as a surprise that any developer would want to spend nearly \$3 billion on a project and not at least make an attempt to give its facade some visual character, either with sheer bombast or by hiring a well-known architect. Can you imagine being DeRuyter Butler, given so much money to work with and allowed to do so little with it architecturally?

To give the Wynn's budget some perspective, consider how it compares to some recently completed Los Angeles landmarks: The \$2.7-billion figure represents roughly 16 Caltrans District 7 Headquarters, 10 Walt Disney Concert Halls and, adjusted for inflation, about 2 1/2 Getty Centers. It is also roughly double the annual budget for the public schools in Clark County, one of the largest districts in the country.

At a time when MGM Mirage, Wynn's main rival, has hired Cesar Pelli and Ehrenkrantz Eckstut & Kuhn Architects to help design a massively ambitious, \$6-billion mixed-use development for the middle of the Strip, Wynn himself seems content to mine perhaps the least interesting period of American architecture — the very last gasp of Late International Style corporatism — for aesthetic inspiration.

And only months after Harrah's Entertainment enlisted Daniel Libeskind to help design a proposed casino for Singapore, Wynn is opening a hotel that suggests that he worried that working with a strong-willed architect might have compromised his aesthetic vision, such as it is.

He's not alone among Las Vegas developers in suffering that sort of anxiety: Directly across the strip, Donald Trump is building a 64-story hotel and condominium tower that promises to be just as uninspired and flagrantly eponymous as the Wynn — and to use even more mirrored glass.

But at least every single pane of glass in Trump's building, which is being designed by the local firm Bergman, Walls & Associates, will reportedly be tinted with 24-karat gold. That's precisely the sort of ridiculous design gesture that the Wynn could have used more of.

**GRAPHIC: PHOTO: BEHEMOTH:** The exterior of the \$2.7-billion, 50-story Wynn Las Vegas is hardly Strip-style

kitsch. Inside, the decor is entertainingly indulgent. PHOTOGRAPHER: Lawrence K. Ho Los Angeles Times PHOTO: EXPLOSION OF FLOWERS: The Wynn Las Vegas' atrium, with marble floors inlaid with mosaics and decorative swirls in the carpets, lets some natural light flow into the casino itself. PHOTOGRAPHER: Lawrence K. Ho Los Angeles Times PHOTO: SHOPPING: A couple linger in a shoe store at the hotel. PHOTOGRAPHER: Lawrence K. Ho Los Angeles Times PHOTO: CASCADE: A waterfall, part of a design centerpiece, is the backdrop for a table in a Japanese restaurant. PHOTOGRAPHER: Lawrence K. Ho Los Angeles Times

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May 9, 2005

SECTION: PUBLIC SPEAKING; Pg. 48

LENGTH: 647 words

HEADLINE: OPINIONS APLENTY

BYLINE: JOHN INTINI

**HIGHLIGHT:**

Impromptu brilliance gives Calgary teen a world title

**BODY:**

**JESSICA ROBERTSHAW** always speaks her mind. It's a trait that can get teens in trouble, but it recently helped the 17-year-old Calgarian earn the title of best impromptu speaker at the 2005 World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship in Cyprus. The Grade 12 student, who made the finals with a five-minute speech about a ham-and-cheese sandwich, plans to study drama at the University of Calgary this fall and is considering a career in law. We tested the fast-thinking fast-talker with a range of topics, giving her one minute to prep for each two-minute speech. Some excerpts:

**RE-GIFTING**

My mother's family used to re-gift every present they ever received. Some may find it tacky, inconsiderate or downright rude, but that's unfair. For starters, it's a money-saver. Do you really think the gift-givers would want their money to be wasted? Absolutely not. Re-gifting is also a timesaver since you don't have to waste time searching in malls. Of course, it doesn't always work perfectly. A few years ago, I received a lovely green flannel nightgown from my grandmother — not something I'd wear for a million dollars. So I put it in my closet. A few years later, on my grandmother's birthday, my mom pulled it out of the closet — forgetting it was once a gift for me — and with the tag still on it, wrapped it up and gave it to her. When she opened it, she immediately realized it was the nightgown she bought me four years earlier. Let's just say that was the last time my family re-gifted a present.

**GENOCIDE**

The big question is do we interfere? Should the UN or individual nations act when they believe atrocities are taking place within countries. Some argue that taking action is imposing on another country's sovereignty. But since we value human life, it's something that needs to be done. In Rwanda, where 800,000 people died because of a conflict between two warring tribes, the UN could do little because some member nations blocked the UN's power. Peoples' lives could have been saved if all the UN nations had worked together. Now we're facing a similar crisis in Sudan. But for some reason, we can't decide if we should interfere, when all we have to do is look back at past examples when lives could have been saved. Above all, human life should be valued.

**BRITNEY SPEARS**

What drives the public's obsession with this little pop tart who, incredibly, was pictured in the *Calgary Herald* because she's pregnant? It comes down to her looks, her overly sexualized songs and, of course, her wild antics. With her bleached-blond hair and often a total lack of clothing, it's hard to miss her. And Britney's not only a major sex symbol

but a fashion trendsetter. Just think of the lovely sweatsuit she wore at her wedding. Of course, the public interest is also based on her sexually inappropriate songs, which show a downright inept musical ability. And don't forget her highly publicized romances with Colin Farrell and Justin Timberlake, and that she was married for a few hours in Vegas before later marrying a backup dancer. Why do we care? Mainly because watching her mess of a life is good fun.

#### **FAST-FOOD BURGERS**

They may be the staple of many North American diets, but there are more than a few reasons why they're terrible. They're filled with carbohydrates, protein that is saturated in fat and few important nutrients. They contribute to obesity, which leads to high cholesterol and heart disease, which then puts pressure on our health-care system. And fast food also takes away from good home-cooked family dinners, which allow people to sit down at a table and have conversations about their day. Grabbing burgers on the run contributes to the breakdown of important family time. Of course, in moderation, it's still one of the best treats.

**GRAPHIC:** Picture, Robertshaw got into the finals with a five-minute speech about a ham-and-cheese sandwich,  
**PHOTOGRAPH BY CHAL STILES**

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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May 9, 2005

SECTION: FILM; Pg. 50

LENGTH: 1901 words

HEADLINE: WHEN STARS FALL ON WAWA

BYLINE: BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

**HIGHLIGHT:**

Ripley, Trinity and Professor Snape invade a northern Ontario town

**BODY:**

**SIGOURNEY WEAVER IS** in Wawa, northern Ontario, shooting a movie called *Snow Cake*. She plays an autistic woman who has a thing for snow. She likes to roll in it, eat it and make snow men out of it. There's just one problem: Wawa had an early spring. "I've lived here 37 years and can't remember an April this nice," says Micheline Hatfield, taking time out from her drilling and blasting operation to join a crowd on a residential street waiting to get a glimpse of Weaver. "I came back from a week in Vegas, and the snowbank on my front yard had dropped six feet." Now it's melted to nothing. But unlike the rest of Wawa, this street of '50s bungalows where Weaver's character lives actually has snow: piles of it have been trucked in, dumped on lawns and arranged in slushy mounds over beds of white Dacron.

There's a woman on the sidewalk hoping "Sigourney" will autograph all four of her *Alien* DVDs. One for each of the kids. She comes to the set each day. And she's invited a bunch of the crew to her house for a venison supper. Myself, I spend three days waiting for Weaver to make good on a promised interview, while trying to keep out of her "eye-line." She's a method actress trying to stay in character — which means avoiding people. Everyone on the crew treats her with kid gloves. And by the time we meet, I'm beginning to wonder if celebrity — with its hypersensitivity and childlike sense of entitlement — isn't so far removed from autism. Everything has to be just so.

This is the story of what happens when a small town is turned into a set, and when three stars — an American, a Canadian and a Brit — become local attractions. They're all famous for a major fantasy franchise: Weaver is the alien-wrangling Ripley; Carrie-Anne Moss is Trinity, *The Matrix* dominatrix; Alan Rickman is *Harry Potter's* reptilian Professor Snape. And in Wawa, a town of 3,700 north of Lake Superior — known for its giant goose and for stranding hitchhikers on the Trans-Canada Highway — they're the biggest news since the gold rush of 1897.

But *Snow Cake* is not a Hollywood movie. Directed by British filmmaker Marc Evans, it's a \$6.5-million indie project based on a script from a novice screenwriter, England's Angela Pell, who has an autistic son. Although she'd never been to Canada, Pell dreamt up a dark comedy, imagining Rickman as a sardonic Englishman on a road trip in the Canadian north. He is cajoled into giving a ride to a local girl, who's killed when a truck slams into his car. He then gets stuck with the girl's autistic mother (Weaver), and seduced by her free-spirited neighbour (Moss). When the British producers came looking for a location, Toronto producer Niv Fichman of Rhombus Media (*The Red Violin*) suggested Wawa. With most of the crew and some cast from Canada, *Snow Cake* became a majority Canadian co-production. And Wawa is proudly playing itself.

For two weeks in April, crowds gather to watch the cameras roll. Folks from across the street, and from half an hour out of town. Mothers with strollers. Children playing hooky. And a journalist who's come to interview the stars and see what happens when a movie crew consumes a town. Which is how I end up sharing fries with Rickman in the dining

room of the Wawa Motor Inn beside "the largest fireplace in the North." With his downturned mouth and amber-green eyes full of intrigue, this is an actor who seems to work from a deep reserve of intelligence. He was the droll ghost in *Truly Madly Deeply* and the caustic sheriff who acted rings-around Kevin Costner's Robin Hood, and now he's the director of a controversial play that has London's West End abuzz — *My Name is Rachel Corrie*, about the American activist killed by an Israeli bulldozer.

It's incongruous to find him in Wawa. But as Rickman points out, there's something unreal about shooting in any real location. "A film comes in and colonizes it," he says, between bites of an unruly BLT. "You start thinking, 'Oh, could we just move that pile of trees?' And sometimes you can. It's like you own it. We're filming on a real street and it already feels like a set. You have to keep reminding yourself that the people coming out of their houses are not extras. They're real people. We've invaded their life pretending to be real people, and the real people stare at us pretending to be them."

Of *Snow Cake*'s stars, Rickman has been the most accessible. Between takes outside JDD's Diner in Hawk Junction, a hamlet of 300 people near Wawa, he goes in to sign autographs and sample the pies. He was so knocked out by the rhubarb and wild blueberry, he started ordering five pies a day for the crew, urging the baker to set up a franchise. He also raves about "this incredible thing called a butter tart that's so good I don't even want to know what's in it." Rickman is even sanguine about the lack of snow: "The director expected a *Fargo* landscape. But the film is about a thaw. With a bit of slush around, it makes for an edgier landscape."

As the actor heads off to work, I spend the afternoon in my motel room, waiting for permission to visit the set. Weaver has decided she doesn't want a journalist watching her act. But half the town is on the sidewalk, doing just that, so I see nothing wrong with joining the crowd. But one of the producers tells me I'm too "distinctive looking," and if Sigourney spots me, she could get spooked and cancel my interview. Crew members propose various ruses. They could park me in a van with tinted windows. Or put me through "honeyland" — hair, makeup and wardrobe — to disguise me as a local. Instead, they decide to hustle me onto the set right away, before Sigourney arrives.

It's a warm day. Onlookers in shirt sleeves soak up the sun, watching nothing happen. I'm ushered into a bungalow, where a camera shoots out the back window as Carrie-Anne Moss walks across the snowy yard. In the background, kids play basketball. I ask if they're extras. No, they're "real." After a couple of takes, I'm suddenly whisked out the door, like a hostage. Sigourney is in the bungalow. Whew! She hasn't seen me.

Later I visit Moss in her trailer. She's in costume — a white parka, a black slip dress over blue jeans, and deerskin boots with pompoms. She's a bit rattled, having just been besieged by some kids who wanted her autograph without knowing who she was. At least one mistook her for Sigourney. "I got a little irritated," she admits. "It's not such a big deal. It just feels rude. I'm in the middle of a conversation and a mother with her children comes up to me, not even teaching them how to behave. Would she treat another adult that way?" The Vancouver-born actress, who lives in Los Angeles, is away from her 18-month-old son for the first time. While she misses him, she's enjoying her log chalet at the Wawa Motor Inn. "I've just been staying in my room," she says. "Watching TV, sleeping and reading. I have fires."

Weaver, meanwhile, has been housed in a chalet next to the one where Wawa's mayor, Rod Morrison, a former CEO of Via Rail, lives with Donna Harris, the motel manager. Like the mayor in *State and Main*, the David Mamet farce about a small-town film shoot, Morrison has tried to invite the stars for dinner, without success. But he did land a role as an extra in a restaurant scene. The word on the street in Wawa is that Weaver is stand-offish, yet the mayor wants to give her the benefit of the doubt. "If she's cold," he says, "it's because her character requires such concentration."

Weaver has been studying autism for her role since July. So who could blame her for not wanting to socialize or do press in her first two days of shooting? But I do get summoned to her trailer for a quick hello. After some small talk about the sewage plant beside our motel, I propose that she do the interview in character. She laughs. Her character, she says, would just tell me to "piss off."

That night Weaver finishes shooting at 4 a.m. I've given up on the interview. But a few hours later, as I'm about to leave for the airport, I get a call saying she's changed her mind, and now wants to talk to me over breakfast. It's her day off. She shows up in sloppy blue jeans and a soft-checked shirt, unbuttoned to show some cleavage and a glimpse of gold bra. Wearing no makeup, she looks in fine shape for 55, and has a girlish smile that makes the years melt away. She orders one scrambled egg — "Is it a real egg?" — with multi-grain toast, then cancels the toast.

The way she orders makes me wonder if she's acting slightly autistic, or just being fussy. Weaver, who has spent a lot of time with autistic adults, explains that they have no mental filter, no membrane shielding them from outside stimulus.

"Without underestimating the pain of autism," she says, "they have extraordinary access into a world that we no longer open the door to — this world of play, of being in the moment and just seeing the way light glimmers off a photograph." When I suggest it sounds like being on a permanent acid trip, she says, "I haven't done acid. I tried some grass once and hallucinated the Virgin Mary. I get drunk on a glass of wine. I'm very, very sensitive."

Many with autism are so sensitive that they avoid eye contact and feel the need to calibrate any input with a lot of precise rituals. "Our world throws so much at them, they want to retreat to a world where they can be in charge," says Weaver. "And I can relate to that. I find change very difficult. Every time I start a film . . . here I am in *Wawa!* It's very unreal to be in this place doing this."

The crew was instructed "to act as if there is someone with autism on the set — you have to be quiet, you have to give her space." Weaver laughs. "That is an actor's dream. I do feel like the film is a little nest. In my chalet, I can bounce around and be autistic as much as I want. I'm not as comfortable taking it out on the street. Once you get in that frame, people coming up to you is very jarring. I find people coming up to me jarring anyway." As for all the children who want her autograph, Weaver has asked for their names to be put on a list. "I'm happy to do it at the end. It sounds very Spoiled Movie Star. You want to say, 'Thank you, yes I'm glad I was in *Ghostbusters*. Who you gonna call, love Sigourney.' But it's hard for me to play the character and shift into that."

Weaver stresses that she's just playing a character, and not trying to represent autism. Yet whether he likes it or not, she may become autism's new poster child, inheriting the role from the star of *Rain Man*. "Dustin Hoffman has been representing autism for a long, long time," she acknowledges, "and I'm sure he never meant to do that." Meanwhile, she's enjoying the "great gift" of learning to live in the moment. "I've always been so impatient," says Weaver, as she methodically folds a paper napkin holder. "Now I see it would be much more satisfying if, instead of thinking what I'm going to do in an hour, I just think about folding this . . . perfectly."

So how will she spend her day off? "I haven't made any plans. As my character says, 'I don't know what I'll feel like in half an hour. I only know how I feel now.'"

**GRAPHIC:** Photo, BRIAN D. JOHNSON; Pictures 1 through 3, Rickman's traveller gets stranded with a mother (Weaver) who's crazy for snow, PHOTOGRAPHS BY NEIL DAVIDSON/REVOLUTION FILMS/RHOMBUS MEDIA; Pictures 4 and 5, Moss plays the girl next door, while Rickman indulges the local Harry Potter fans, PHOTOGRAPHS BY NEIL DAVIDSON/REVOLUTION FILMS/RHOMBUS MEDIA

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (Wisconsin)

May 9, 2005 Monday  
Final Edition

**SECTION:** B News; Pg. 6

**LENGTH:** 456 words

**HEADLINE:** Imitation is quite flattering for the Killers

**BYLINE:** JON M. GILBERTSON, Special to the Journal Sentinel, Special to the Journal Sentinel

**BODY:**

Las Vegas is dubiously renowned for many things, but not for famous rock 'n' roll bands.

That has changed, for the present, with the Killers. The quartet came together in 2002, released its debut album, "Hot Fuss," last summer and is packing national venues, including the Eagles Ballroom on Saturday night.

It stands to reason, though, that the Killers formed in Vegas – a city that has always dealt in outsize imitation – because the band hasn't so much created music as dug up, shined and reused salvageable fragments from music others created roughly two decades ago.

The kickoff, "Midnight Show," revealed its antecedents in 10 seconds: It was a song the Fixx never wrote (but certainly could have), played by U2 during its "Unforgettable Fire" phase.

Next up was "Andy, You're a Star," which revisited the depressive swooning glory of mid-period Cure. Later on, "All the Pretty Faces" – a "new" song, or rather an exhumation not yet recorded and released – cast a model of plastic decadence in the mold of Depeche Mode.

But the Killers, like any good Vegas act, knew how to deliver a show. Lead singer and keyboardist Brandon Flowers had a presence reminiscent of David Bowie when he, too, was a fake (Thin White Duke or Ziggy Stardust, didn't matter). His stiffness was the stiffness of a man doing the robot dance correctly, and his quaver was the quaver of an impressionist who had closely studied the sexual confusion and taut anxiety of those he replicated (e.g., Robert Smith, Gary Numan).

The sound quality was almost better than the album, with the cavernous reverb inherent to the venue enhancing the fey drama of the music. And the brightly lighted band logo behind the Killers even resembled the garish ELVIS that flashed behind Presley during his waning days in you-know-where.

Basically, the Killers' performance mirrored Interpol's appearance at The Rave earlier this year. Whereas Interpol made up for a significant lack of open-faced charisma with music that developed something beyond its influences, the Killers made up for a lack of originality with glittery enthusiasm.

That enthusiasm came back to the Killers: Most of the crowd not only stuck around after the band's beguilingly pompous single, "Mr. Brightside," but also demanded an encore.

Even the opening band, Tegan and Sara, got some adoration. The twin sisters had three guys providing serious pop-rock backing and thus sounded as prickly as Ani DiFranco and as catchy as Fountains of Wayne: a broader range of comparison than the Killers could claim. Viva Las Vegas.

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National Law Journal

May 9, 2005

SECTION: IN FOCUS; Pg. S1 Vol. 26 No. 82

LENGTH: 2203 words

**HEADLINE:** 2004 filings show geographic trends;  
Trademark applications from Asia rose; in the U.S., 10 states accounted for 60% of the filings.

**BYLINE:** Glenn A. Gundersen; Special to The National Law Journal**BODY:**

Two thousand four was a very healthy year for U.S. trademarks. After several years in a slump, new applications for U.S. trademark registration made a definite rebound in 2004. More than 248,000 new applications were filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) last year, a 9% increase from 2003. It was, in fact, the third-highest year ever, exceeded only by the dot-com bubble years of 1999 and 2000.

This robust increase in the quest for new marks is a certain sign of health in the economy, because patterns in PTO filings over the last decade have shown that trademark applications uncannily reflect larger economic trends. Each new application represents a potential brand name, logo or tag line for a new business, product launch, line extension or ad campaign. Looking at trends in filing volume provides a sense of whether companies are feeling optimistic or pessimistic about the public appetite for their products and services. Indeed, one can see a decade of economic optimism reflected in the rising tide of U.S. filings from 1992 through early 2000—followed by the burst of the dot-com bubble in 2001, when applications fell by 23%—and then a sluggish recovery in 2002 and 2003. [See chart, Page S13.]

For evidence that Americans lack a certain stick-to-it-iveness when it comes to dieting, one need look no further than the rise and fall of "carb" marks; brand names that communicate that products are perfect for people on the Atkins, South Beach and similar diet regimens were hot in the beginning of 2004, but very quickly lost their appeal. The word "carb" appeared in just more than 100 applications in 2002, quadrupled to more than 400 in 2003, and increased by another 50% in 2004, with more than 625 applications filed. But the number of applications fell from 336 in the first quarter of 2004 to 197 in the second quarter, plummeted to 60 in the third, and hit bottom with 37 in the last. A mark filed in 2005 sums up the current appeal—"Carb Discard."

While 2004 was the first really good year in a while, a closer look at the trademark-filing statistics indicates that not all parts of the United States or the world are feeling equally bullish about the U.S. market. Businesses in some states and countries showed a significantly increased desire for U.S. trademark registration than others, and the overall recovery seemed to leave some industries behind. And while "blue state" voters may not have been happy with the outcome of the presidential race, they can take solace in the fact that the number of applications including the phrase "Blue State" far outpaced applications for the phrase "Red State."

The vast majority of applications filed with the PTO come from companies with U.S. addresses. Domestic applicants outnumber foreign ones by a ratio of 85 to 15. Businesses in Western Europe and Asia account for most of the filings by non-U.S. applicants, but the No. 1 filer of U.S. applications is the neighbor right across the border, as shown in the chart on Page S12.

Applications from these markets were in something of a slump—while Canada, Germany and Japan registered an increase, that increase was less than the 9% jump in total U.S. applications. Demand for U.S. trademarks by companies in Western Europe decreased. Not every part of the world displayed such a lack of enthusiasm, however. Two thousand four saw an upsurge in applications filed by countries that have traditionally been manufacturers of products for others, but have not had strong brand names of their own. In absolute numbers, the big jump came from China, but India and Eastern

Europe saw a marked increase as well.

Applications by companies in China increased from 488 to 770 in one year, a sure sign that companies on the mainland have long-term designs to market in the United States under their own trademarks. Filings were heaviest in the electronics/computer and apparel classes. In comparison, applications from Taiwan held steady at about 1,100 in each of the past two years. India did not come close to China either in the overall number of applications or percentage increase, but still saw a very healthy 25% increase, rising to 233 filings. Indian applicants matched China in the number of filings for business services, data processing and software development.

While U.S. filings from the largest Western European nations decreased, Eastern Europe was significantly more interested in obtaining U.S. trademark protection—Polish companies filed 78% more U.S. applications in 2004 and Hungarian companies were up by 67%. The actual number of filings was not that large—just more than 100 from Poland and 45 from Hungary, as compared with 3,600 from German businesses and 2,800 from the United Kingdom. Still, Polish filings were closing in on those from Russian applicants, which increased by 22%, but numbered only 134.

Overall, applications from outside the United States did not grow any faster or slower than those from applicants with U.S. addresses—each registered a 9% overall increase. However, given that the top four countries making U.S. applications could only muster a 3% increase in 2004, it's clear that the demand from other places such as China made up the difference.

The decline in European filings comes as a surprise, given that the United States recently made it easier for non-U.S. applicants to file for registration here. In November 2003, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office began accepting applications under the Madrid Protocol, which allows foreign companies to request U.S. registration as part of their home country filings if their home country is a protocol member. A significant number of Madrid filings have been made—about 1,500 in 2003 and 7,500 in 2004—but the increased convenience of U.S. filing has not caused foreign applications to outpace the demand for new marks by American companies.

Prior to the Madrid Protocol, the easiest way for a non-U.S. company to obtain U.S. registration was Â§ 44 of the Lanham Act, which allowed foreign companies to avoid proving U.S. use of the mark before obtaining registration. Many speculated that Madrid Protocol filings under Lanham Act Â§ 66 would make Â§ 44 drastically less popular, but that's not been the case. Section 44 applications did decrease with the advent of Madrid—from 9,700 in 2002 to 9,300 in 2003 to 7,400 in 2004—but perhaps not as much as some might have expected.

One reason for the continued resilience of Â§ 44 is that countries that have not yet joined the Madrid Protocol can only file under Â§ 44 or a conventional use-based or intent-to-use application. Among these countries are Canada, the No. 1 source of foreign applications, and much of Latin America. For European applicants, the Madrid Protocol did not become an attractive alternative until October 2004, when applicants for a European Community registration were able for the first time to designate the United States under the Madrid Protocol. Before then, the Madrid option was only available if a company was filing a national application in its home country, and many such companies preferred the convenience of a community registration covering 25 countries.

#### Red state/blue state

Although the states that voted for George W. Bush produced more electoral votes than those that voted for John Kerry, the "blue states" produced many more trademark applications in 2004 than the "red states"—132,000 filed by blue state applicants v. 81,000 from businesses in the red states.

Applications for marks containing the word "Blue State" have also outpaced "Red State," with only three of the latter, but 16 of the former. Such filings are an inevitable byproduct when a new catchphrase suddenly acquires political currency—prior years have seen flurries of filings proposing to use "Osama," "Shock & Awe" and "Desert Storm" on T-shirts, bumper stickers and other paraphernalia. Needless to say, such merchandising does not remove a well-known phrase from the public domain and bestow its applicant with the exclusive right to use it as a trademark. Such applications are typically refused registration and abandoned when the public fancy moves on. Still, a new pack of applicants materializes with each new buzzword. Two of the current applicants are apparently nonpartisan, seeking registration for both "Red State" and "Blue State," although both are blue state residents. Others seek to register such predictable variations as "Blue State University" and "Blue States of America" for clothing, although there is an application for the more creative "Blue State of Mind."

#### Variety by region



The healthy 9% increase in U.S. applications in 2004 wasn't spread uniformly across the 50 states. Some states produce a disproportionate share of trademark applications, compared with their populations, indicating that those states have more than their share of businesses generating new marks. The top 10 states in 2004 were California, New York, Florida, Texas, Illinois, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts (tied), Ohio and Georgia. Overall, these 10 states account for more than 60% of trademark filings by U.S. companies, but only half of the U.S. population. Among the "overachievers" on this list:

California accounts for 12% of the U.S. population, but 21% of its domestic trademark filings.

New York accounts for 6% of the U.S. population but 10% of its domestic trademark filings.

Two other Northeastern states place considerably higher on trademark applications than they do in population—New Jersey ranks sixth in marks, but ninth in population, while Massachusetts ranks 13th in population, but ties for eighth in filings.

Although the list of top 10 states has not changed in 10 years, their relative pecking order has changed. California now files twice as many applications as New York, while in 1994 it had only a 40% edge. Applications from Florida have increased by the most of any state on the list, nearly doubling over 10 years. In contrast, businesses with Illinois addresses filed only 4% more applications in 2004 than they did in 1994. As a result, that state, once ranked third to California and New York, has fallen to fifth place. Although one might have expected much of the increase in trademark applications over the last 10 years to come from the Sunbelt, that was not entirely the case—New Jersey, for example, did just as well as Texas and Georgia, with a 50% jump from 1994 to 2004.

A closer look at filings in various states shows that not all industries shared in an across-the-board recovery. For example, applications by California companies for marks in the computer and electronics class increased only 2% from 2003 to 2004, hovering at about 7,000. The pace of filings mentioning computers or computerization was similarly sluggish. In contrast, Californian applications in the entertainment services class went from nearly 4,400 to about 5,000 in one year, a 14% jump which outpaced the state's overall increase. New York should be heartened by the numbers for applications in the financial services class—filings by companies with New York addresses rose 14%. There was good news as well for one of New Jersey's bellwether industries—applications in the pharmaceuticals class by New Jersey applicants were up 16%.

Although places like California and New York produce the lion's share of trademark applications, the top 10 states over time have accounted for less and less of the overall application pie. Specifically, the top 10 states listed above accounted for 65% of total U.S. filings in 1994, but only 54% of total filings in 2004. Where did all the extra applications come from? Some came from outside the United States, but states beyond the top 10 have supplied a larger share of new marks.

Nevada is unquestionably the overachiever recently. Filings by Nevada applicants increased from just less than 3,000 in 2003 to more than 4,100 in 2004, a 40% rise. Although the state accounts for less than 1% of the U.S. population, it accounted for 2% of filings by U.S. applicants last year. Not surprisingly, casino and gaming-related products and services accounted for almost one-quarter of these filings. Those applications were disproportionately responsible for the boom in Nevada filings, increasing by 69% in one year. Clearly, what happens in Vegas winds up at the Trademark Office.

The less glamorous state of Delaware perennially produces many more trademark applications than its size would suggest. It ranks 45th in U.S. population, but 32d in trademark filings. Why? Companies with headquarters in other states have established trademark holding company subsidiaries in Delaware, and those applications bear a Delaware address.

With U.S. applications increasing by 9% overall, it was unusual for any state's filings to go down, but it happened—Louisiana and Wisconsin both saw declines. Leading the decline—applications by Wisconsin companies for trademarks for cheese fell by 50%.

Glenn A. Gundersen is co-chairman of the intellectual property group in the Philadelphia office of Dechert. He is the author of the International Trademark Association's book *Trademark Searching* (2d ed. 2000) and a co-author of *Intellectual Property in Mergers & Acquisitions* (John Wiley 2002).

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May 9, 2005, Monday IOWA;NEBRASKA;SUNRISE EDITION

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. 06C;

**LENGTH:** 548 words

**HEADLINE:** Thompson hopes to pin a title The 31-year-old former Husker wrestler wants to become a world champion.

**BYLINE:** Craig Sesker

**SOURCE:** WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

**BODY:**

How serious is former Husker wrestler Tolly Thompson about becoming a world champion?

He already has made long treks to Siberia, Cuba and Uzbekistan this season to face some of the best competition in the world.

While many wrestlers his age have taken off their shoes and left them on the center of the mat for the last time, the 31-year-old Thompson still pushes himself through two grueling workouts a day.

Thompson's first noteworthy reward from all the hard work this season came April 30 in Las Vegas. That is when he knocked off two-time NCAA champ Steve Mocco to win the U.S. Nationals freestyle title at heavyweight.

Mocco, an Oklahoma State junior, recently won the Hodge Trophy as the nation's best collegiate wrestler. But Thompson pinned him late in the second period, the biggest story of the weekend in Vegas.

An exuberant Thompson knew how important the win was.

"Anytime you win a national title that is a pretty big deal," he said. "I was really excited and emotional after that match. The momentum that gives me is huge."

That win means Thompson will enter next month's World Team Trials in Ames seeded No. 1, gaining an automatic berth into the best-of-three finals. If he wins that event he will qualify for September's World Championships in Budapest, Hungary.

Even though Thompson was seeded No. 1, many wrestling observers were picking Mocco to knock him off.

Barring an upset in Ames, Thompson and Mocco would meet again for a spot on the World team.

"I kept hearing people were picking him and that's fine," Thompson said. "He is tough, but I am at the top of my game right now. I want to be a world champion, that's the bottom line. I prepare every day, emotionally and physically, to do it."

It has been more than a decade since Thompson, the career wins leader at the University of Nebraska, won a NCAA title for the Huskers in 1995.

But Thompson has been stuck in a loaded heavyweight class that included 1999 World champion Stephen Neal and two-time Olympian Kerry McCoy.

Thompson, from Janesville, Iowa, placed second to McCoy at the 2003 World Team Trials and the 2004 Olympic Trials.

With Neal now a starting guard for the New England Patriots and McCoy retired, Thompson is the nation's No. 1 heavyweight now.

"I was right there with those guys, but I wasn't winning against them," said Thompson, who has not ruled out making

a run the 2008 Olympic team. "That was real frustrating. We could only take one heavyweight from the U.S. and had three guys who could have been world champs."

In the match with Mocco in Vegas, the powerful 6-foot-4, 265-pound Thompson won the first period 1-0. He trailed 1-0 late in the second period before powering in on a shot and catching Mocco on his back.

Thompson also beat Mocco at last year's Olympic Trials. He placed second with Mocco third.

Thompson also won the U.S. Nationals in 1998, but blew out his knee a short time later and was unable to compete in the World Team Trials.

Thompson, a former Husker assistant coach, now is an assistant at Northern Iowa. He and his wife, Tracy, have two daughters with a third daughter expected to arrive in September.

"The support my wife has given me is tremendous," he said. "She is 110 percent behind me. I couldn't do this without her."

**GRAPHIC:** Color Photo/1; Tolly Thompson will enter next month's World Team Trials in Ames seeded No. 1, gaining an automatic berth into the best-of-three finals.;

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

# **INDEX 292**

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Copyright 2005 Time Inc.  
People

May 9, 2005

SECTION: BRAD &amp; ANGELINA; Pg. 56

LENGTH: 1093 words

**HEADLINE:** And Now...Brangelina!;  
There's no denying it. Pitt and Jolie have a romantic rendezvous in Africa**BYLINE:** Michelle Tauber in L.A.; Jason Lynch in L.A.; Chris Strauss, in L.A.; Todd Gold in L.A.; Mike Fleeman in L.A.; Julie Jordan in L.A.; Sandra Marquez in L.A.; Brenda Rodriguez in L.A.; Bryan Alexander in London; Sara Hammel in London; Xan Rice in Kenya; Neil Michael in Addis Ababa; Lisa Ingrassia in New York City; Courtney Hazlett in New York City**BODY:**

By now, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are comfortable playing husband and wife—both in their upcoming action-romance Mr. and Mrs. Smith and in a '60s-era photo shoot for the June issue of W magazine. But on April 19, it was clear that the sexy stars were no longer just role-playing for the cameras: Strolling on Kenya's Diani Beach with Jolie's 3-year-old son Maddox, they enjoyed a family beach outing, with Pitt engaging Maddox in some shovel-and-bucket sand play while Mom looked on. Back at the luxury Alfajiri Villas where the trio were staying, "Brad and Angie looked very jovial," says an observer. "They walked together, laughed." Given how relaxed they seemed, says the source, "it would have been hard to convince someone that they were not husband and wife."

And so, after nearly a year of intense speculation—during which time the pair turned up in extravagantly romantic settings from Amalfi, Italy, where they shot scenes for Mr. and Mrs. Smith, to Palm Springs, Calif.—PEOPLE's two-time Sexiest Man Alive and Esquire's reigning Sexiest Woman Alive appear to have joined forces as the Universe's Sexiest Couple Alive (and readers agree; see page 72). After repeated steadfast denials of a romantic relationship—talk that reached a fever pitch in January, when Pitt and wife Jennifer Aniston announced their split, with Jolie singled out as the seductive Other Woman—this time around Pitt, 41, and Jolie, 29, are keeping notably mum. And yet as evidence of a romance mounts, a close source maintains that there was nothing improper going on before the actor's separation. "He didn't do anything while he was married," says the source. "He'll go to the grave saying that."

Of the intimate Pitt-Jolie African rendezvous, during which the pair shared a romantic \$2,000-a-night oceanside villa and journeyed on a half-day safari at the Shimba Hills National Reserve in Kenya, "it is what it is," says the source.

What exactly is "it"? Although the same source says that the stars "are obviously friends," it seems unlikely that "just plain pals" would go to the trouble of meeting in a remote pocket of Kenyan coastline. Even more telling, protective mom Jolie—who has often spoken of her desire to keep the men in her life at a distance from Maddox lest he get attached to one—has clearly given Pitt the green light. Whether sharing downtime on the Smith set in L.A. last spring or cavorting in Kenya, Pitt and Maddox have forged an obvious bond. While shooting Smith, "Brad liked to play with [Maddox]," says an on-set source.

During the same shoot, several sources close to Pitt made it clear that the actor had fallen under Jolie's notorious spell. (She has been involved with several of her leading men, including ex-husbands Jonny Lee Miller and Billy Bob Thornton.) "Angelina can turn on the charm, and there's not a guy in the world who wouldn't be fascinated with her," said a source at the time. With the rumors swirling last May, Jolie downplayed any real-life chemistry between herself and Pitt: "I end up in the paper with everyone I work with," she told PEOPLE.

What is undeniable, however, is the mutual admiration both stars have expressed for one another. Pitt "is a great actor, a great guy," Jolie told Inside the Actors Studio host James Lipton in an episode taped in New York City on April 25. "He's one of those people . . . they seem very far away. But he's extremely down-to-earth. He's goofy. He's funny." On

the Smith set, "he was always encouraging me to be dumber," she said. "He'd say, 'You know what would be funny? If you turn around and walk into that door.' And then I thought, 'Now I'm just being a complete idiot.' We had a lot of fun." On the topic of sex scenes in general—there's an especially steamy one in Smith—Jolie spoke with typical candor. "I can do a sex scene quite easily," she said. "You find something about that person and you enjoy it, and you're an adult. And if [your costar's] husband or wife is there, you make a point of showing some respect to them, showing them that they're the most important person."

Regardless of whether she extended that courtesy to Aniston (for more on Pitt's soon-to-be ex, see box), Jolie has clearly had a profound influence on Pitt, whose interest in Third World relief parallels Jolie's longtime work as a UN ambassador. Following his getaway with Jolie in Kenya, the actor jetted to Ethiopia and South Africa on back-to-back humanitarian missions (see box). During his Ethiopia visit, "he just mucked in with everybody else," says Francesca Stuer, Ethiopia director of Family Health International, a group that provides help to children with HIV/ AIDS. "I really got the impression that he likes the fact that few people know who he is in Ethiopia."

No such luck in most of the rest of the world, where news of Hollywood's newest supercouple—Brangelina, anyone?—is sure to keep Pitt and Jolie squarely in the white-hot glare of the spotlight. With Pitt continuing his humanitarian work in Africa—and preparing to shoot the drama *Babel* in Morocco with Cate Blanchett—and Jolie stateside for her Actors Studio appearance, the pair are maintaining their public silence for now. All that may change, however, when publicity gears up for the June release of *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* (see box)—and audiences can judge the Pitt-Jolie combustibility for themselves. "They have amazing chemistry onscreen," says a source who worked with them on Smith. "They are insanely hot people."

By Michelle Tauber, Jason Lynch and Chris Strauss. Todd Gold, Mike Fleeman, Julie Jordan, Sandra Marquez and Brenda Rodriguez in L.A., Bryan Alexander and Sara Hammel in London, Xan Rice in Kenya, Neil Michael in Addis Ababa and Lisa Ingrassia and Courtney Hazlett in New York City

#### BOX STORY:

#### DON'T SAY A WORD

Since rumors began flying last year, Pitt and Jolie have insisted reports of a romance are greatly exaggerated.

"... we would like to explain that our separation is not the result of any of the speculation reported by the tabloid media..."—Pitt, in a joint statement with Aniston

"This particular story is completely untrue."

—Pitt's publicist on a report that he and Jolie spent a romantic weekend in Palm Springs

"I end up in the paper with everyone I work with. In fact, I'm just with my kid."—Jolie, to *People*, May 2004

"I wouldn't sleep with a married man. . . . I have enough lovers. I don't need Brad."

—Jolie, to *Allure*, November 2004

**GRAPHIC: COLOR PHOTO: MIKE GUASTELLA/WIREIMAGE, THEIR BEACHSIDE GETAWAY,** On April 19 Brad Pitt landed in Kenya for a holiday with Angelina Jolie and her 3-year-old son Maddox. They strolled on a beach and retreated inside the heavily guarded walls of the luxurious Alhajiri Villas (pictured) on the Indian Ocean. During their stay the pair shared a four-bedroom villa and enjoyed a safari at a neighboring wildlife reserve. At the resort "they wanted absolute privacy," says a worker. Adds another source inside the hotel: "They acted as if they had known each other a long time."; **COLOR PHOTO: VANESSA VICK, [see caption above]; COLOR PHOTO: NANCY KASZERMAN/ZUMA, [see caption above]; COLOR PHOTO: JOURNEYS BY DESIGN.NET, [see caption above]; TWO COLOR PHOTOS: STEPHEN VAUGHN/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX, The Movie That Started it All:** Mr. and Mrs. Smith Though a Pitt source insists that no romance happened between the actor and Jolie before his divorce, the costars became close on the set of *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*, a summer action-thriller in which they play dueling—and married—assassins. The stars did a photo shoot as a JFK-era married couple for *W*, but don't expect them to promote their romance along with the film. Nobody wants another *Gigli*. At a recent Vegas convention, they stood far apart, and a Fox rep says the extent of their participation at the press junket in early June is still undetermined. However, Pitt and Jolie will attend the film's L.A. premiere, slated for June 7, and a Mexico City premiere June 8. A global publicity tour will follow. And the summer's hottest romance may have only just begun.; **TWO COLOR PHOTOS: VANESSA VICK, THE ALHAJIRI VILLAS:** April 19–22 WHERE

Diani Beach in Kenya COST \$2,000 per night LUXURY TOUCHES The resort's crown jewel is the four-bedroom Cliff Villa, where Pitt and Jolie bunked during their stay. With its own private pool, floor-to-ceiling glass walls and a 270-degree view of the Indian Ocean, the villa offers "complete exclusivity," says frequent guest Will Jones, the owner of a British travel agency. Fresh seafood is brought in daily—Pitt and Jolie dined in the privacy of their villa—and the attentive service includes a personal butler. Says Jones: "The food is superb, and [the villas] are exceptionally comfortable." THE LOOK Ivory floors and a collection of African and Eastern artifacts decorate the Cliff Villa. MADDOX-FRIENDLY? Yes. The resort boasts that it is "ideal for families where even the youngest children are accustomed to ultimate comforts," and room rates include two nannies on call 24 hours a day.; COLOR PHOTO: JOURNEYS BY DESIGN.NET, [see caption above]; COLOR PHOTO: MATRIX/BAUER-GRIFFIN, [see caption above]; COLOR PHOTO: J. TAYLOE EMERY/ONE.ORG, MEANWHILE: JEN, Though she frowned (left) at L.A. paparazzi on April 24 after news broke of her soon-to-be ex-husband's African rendezvous, people around Jennifer Aniston say she's doing fine. After all, rumors of a Pitt-Jolie dalliance aren't a new issue for her. Before Pitt and Aniston's separation, "Jennifer knew that Angelina got under his skin, and it bothered her," a source told PEOPLE in January. In recent days Aniston has surrounded herself with close friends, including her longtime hairstylist Chris McMillan and Courteney Cox. Still living in the Beverly Hills mansion she shared with Pitt, Aniston has been back at work filming a few final shots with costar Mark Ruffalo for the comedy Rumor Has It; in June she'll start shooting a romantic comedy costarring Vince Vaughn: The Break Up. While her ex seems to be moving on, is Aniston back in the dating pool? Says her rep: "Jennifer has not even considered dating."; COLOR PHOTO: JAN KNAPIK/SPLASH NEWS, ANGELINA HITS N.Y.C.: April 25-26 A radiant Jolie signed autographs outside the taping of her appearance on Bravo's Inside the Actors Studio (right); the next day, she and Maddox hopped aboard a hansom cab for a springtime jaunt through the city. Also on display: Jolie's newest tattoo, an Arabic word that translates as "the energy," on her arm.; COLOR PHOTO: JAMES DEVANEY/WIREIMAGE, [see caption above]; COLOR PHOTO: FLYNET, BRAD'S AFRICAN TOUR: April 22-26 After his visit to Kenya, Pitt stayed on the continent as a celebrity ambassador for DATA, Bono's campaign to promote AIDS awareness and economic reform in Africa. On April 23 the actor—trailed by TV cameras—met with care workers and locals affiliated with Family Health International in Ethiopia. At one stop, "a group of children had gathered, and they all started dancing and singing, and Brad just joined in," says FHI's Ethiopia director Francesca Stuer. A few days later, during a visit to the Ithuteng Trust school in Soweto, South Africa, Pitt again joined in a group dance. Says Jackey Maarohanye, founding director of the program: "He was smiling all the way."

LOAD-DATE: April 29, 2005



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PR Week (US)

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** REGIONAL FOCUS, Pg. 17

**LENGTH:** 1676 words

**HEADLINE:** MOUNTAIN STATES - A MARKETING OASIS

**BYLINE:** By Robert Summa

**BODY:**

Las Vegas stands out among its neighbors as a global icon.

Many visitors come to Las Vegas with dreams of striking it rich, but perhaps no residents of Sin City are on a better roll than its PR pros. As Vegas enjoys a continuing economic boom across a variety of sectors, an unprecedented breadth of opportunities is being presented to the local PR community.

Of course, with opportunity comes challenge, as each industry demands specific attention from a PR standpoint. And it's not just all cards-and-dice vendors that are reaping the benefits of a behemoth economy. Everything from construction to retail is experiencing the heat placed upon the Vegas economy that sees no halt in its continued surge to unprecedented economic numbers.

Vegas' effects are far-reaching, adding to an economic impact of dollars 5.9 billion and more than 39,000 jobs for the whole Southern Nevada region.

Cities such as Reno and Carson City have also seen major drops in unemployment and a climbing annual job-growth rate. According to the Nevada Department of Employment, the state's economy added over 13,000 jobs in March alone and had a yearly growth rate of 6.8% - four times the national average.

The gaming industry alone attracts over 37 million people who contribute as much as \$33.7 billion to the economy of Las Vegas. In fact, the city's gaming revenue alone tops \$6.8 billion. With the exception of 2001, which gave Las Vegas a temporary hiccup in its continued growth due to the tourism-damaging events of 9/11, the amount of visitors has increased between 1 million to 2 million people yearly.

The agency scene

With an increasing population and workforce that already exceeds 1.5 million in and around Las Vegas, the PR industry is in huge demand. In turn, the amount of PR agencies to populate the area has also grown.

'There are a ton of firms here,' says Steve Stern, founder of PR firm Stern & Company. 'The larger ones are really public affairs firms, with the rest more or less acting like news-release mills.'

And where they really can capitalize is with the gaming companies that know the money is not just in the gambling, but in where the gamblers stay, what they do, and what they eat.

'We have very smart people that own these gaming properties,' says Mark Brown, president of R&R Partners, a PR firm that handles various accounts, such as the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority. 'They continue to reinvent this town. Gaming used to be the only main driving force.'

Now we have room, food, and retail surpassing that.'

For PR firms in Vegas, it's not all about making money and spreading the word, but also about hiring and attracting quality professionals to the area.

N/R 294

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'The market has tightened,' says Brown. 'We have hired search consultants to find top-notch talent. Vegas has always been affordable, but it has gone up a bit and we've had to adjust. It's an ongoing challenge.'

And it's not just gaming that attracts PR attention. 'The hottest thing is real estate and retail,' says Brown. 'It's a fantastic market to work in. Las Vegas is currently undergoing a high-rise and condo boom.'

Because of the city's increase in opportunity and public attention, corporate PR pros are not only in a position to soak up all of what Vegas has to offer, but also carry the burden of continuing such lofty expectations of success.

'The '90s probably saw the most growth in just about over a century,' says Rob Stillwell, VP of corporate communications at Boyd Gaming, one of the top-five casino companies, with 18 properties in six different states. 'The PR industry has benefited greatly from all this. There are more PR pros here now than at any other time.'

Stillwell adds that a large part of the region's growth is down to Vegas evolving into a family destination. 'Casinos are more about entertainment now,' he says. 'As a whole, Nevada has a better understanding of the casino entertainment business and what it has to offer.'

Obviously, an increase in business means a rise in work. 'The main challenges I deal with is the amount of traffic in and out of the office,' says Valerie DeMatties, corporate communications head at Harrah's. 'With the amount of media requests and inquiries, it has been important to prioritize.'

But despite the boom, there have been some bumps in the road - chiefly, like a child outgrowing his clothes, Vegas has outgrown some of its existing PR capabilities.

'Because Vegas has grown so much, there will be growing pains,' says Stillwell. 'Because of that growth, the industry is dependent on drawing new talent from out of the area. With the unique nature of Vegas and Nevada, those with experience have become very valuable to us.'

#### Navigating the media

Mirroring the city's expansion, the media in and around Las Vegas has also had a steady and increased growth in not only circulation and size, but also in a comprehension of just what kind of impact casinos and surrounding industries offer to the community as a whole.

'The media here have been great,' says Stillwell. 'Reporters are staying longer and, with that, we have been able to build longer, more substantial relationships.'

DeMatties agrees with this positive outlook. 'The media have been very accommodating to us,' he says.

The same kind of overall feeling toward the media can also be found in non-casino business relationships.

'Las Vegas is booming,' says Peter O'Neil, VP of public and investor relations at Sierra Health Services, Nevada's largest insurance provider and one of the state's largest healthcare providers.

'As the town has grown,' O'Neil adds, 'so has the sophistication of the media.'

Of course, because of Vegas' size and reputation, it still can serve as a transition for some reporters, especially in the TV market.

'It seems that there is constant turnover in the television market,' says Brown. 'The challenge is that you won't always be dealing with the same reporter. This is all balanced by the news editors who do tend to stick around. But, from a reporter standpoint, it's almost like starting from page one every time.'

Vegas is larger and maybe more grown-up now, but it has not always been that way. Getting a point of view across in a sector, such as healthcare, wasn't always so easy.

'In the beginning, because of the size of the media market, the reporters who understand the healthcare industry just weren't there,' O'Neil says.

'We had our work cut out for us to educate the public on what was happening. Over time, that has changed.

Now reporters are coming into Las Vegas who represent a much broader understanding.'

And just what kind of future is in store for this lit-up metropolis?

Likely more of the same with no sign of stopping, all of which can pay dividends to the PR industry in and around the city.

'The PR community is still in its adolescence,' says O'Neil. 'There are a lot more professionals coming here to open up their own practices.'

When they arrive, they bring with them savvy and expertise that adds to the overall success of the area. They all become quite active in their professional chapters. I think this all adds to the professional needs and effects on the area.'

On May 15, Las Vegas will celebrate 100 years of an existence that has gone through a major renaissance. Once a hub for ill-repute and organized crime, the city has transformed itself into an entertainment capital that not only caters to the inner gambler in all of us, but also to the family and needs of a growing community that depends on all the services needed to make an area thrive.

With more 37 million coming and going out of the city every year, Vegas is clearly headed in a direction that sees no sign of slowing down and is proving to be a fertile area for PR to truly grow and blossom.

'The expansion of gaming has actually helped the city,' said Brown. 'People want to go where it all began.'

- For more PR agencies in the Mountain states, look in PRWeek Contact, or go to [www.contact-directory.com](http://www.contact-directory.com)

#### LAS VEGAS

Population 478,434

White: 69.9%

Hispanic: 23.6%

African American: 10.4%

Asian: 4.8%

American Indian: 0.8%

Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander: .4%

#### LARGEST DAILY

The Las Vegas Review-Journal (circ: 167,000)

#### Top employment sectors

Sales and office occupations: 27.5%

Service occupations: 26.3%

Management, professional, and related occupations: 25.5%

#### Top industry sectors

Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services: 28%

Educational, health, and social services: 12.5%

Retail trade: 11.3%

#### FORTUNE COMPANIES

Caesars Entertainment

Harrah's Entertainment

MGM Mirage

Mandalay Resort Group

Sierra Health Services

Boyd Gaming

PR agencies

R&R Partners

Kirvin Doak Communications Brown & Partners PR.

FACT FILE

ARIZONA

Population (2003 est.)

5,580,811

Fortune companies

Avnet

Allied Waste Industries

Phelps Dodge

PR agencies

CTS Advertising and PR

E.B. Lane

Gordon C. James PR

Largest daily

The Arizona Republic

(circ: 486,131)

NEVADA

Population (2003 est.)

2,241,154

Fortune companies

Sierra Pacific Resources

International Game Technology

Amerco

PR agencies

Carol Infranca Associates

Chrisse White-Waddell PR

Innerwest Advertising Largest daily

The Las Vegas Review-Journal (circ: 167,000)

NEW MEXICO

Population (2003 est.) 1,874,614

Fortune companies

PNM Resources (only Fortune company listed)

Others: SBS Technologies

Thornburg Mortgage

PR agencies

D.W.Turner Strategic Communications

Griffin & Associates

Hirst Cordova PR

Largest daily

The Albuquerque Journal

(circ: 108,000)

UTAH

Population (2003 est.) 2,351,467

Fortune companies

Autoliv

Zions Bancorp.

Qwestar

PR agencies

Love Communications

Penna Powers Brian Haynes

Richter 7

Largest daily

The Salt Lake Tribune

(circ: 208,058).

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

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PR Newswire US

May 9, 2005 Monday 12:32 PM GMT

LENGTH: 1450 words

**HEADLINE:** VacationSpot.com Names Top Spots For Summer Fun;  
Vacation Rentals Range from Spacious Cabins to Beachfront Condominiums

**DATELINE:** DALLAS May 9

**BODY:**

DALLAS, May 9 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ — Summer is quickly approaching and VacationSpot.com has put together a list of the most sought after destinations and vacation rental resorts from Orlando to Paris. Whether travelers are looking for a sun-tan summer, a family-friendly place to stay, or a romantic summer getaway, <http://www.vacationspot.com/> has the most comprehensive worldwide collection of condos, suites, bed & breakfasts, and private homes available for booking on the Internet.

"The key to a great summer vacation is choosing the right destination and accommodations. VacationSpot.com can help you choose those best places based on your needs — more room for the kids, or a private hot tub for relaxing, or a beachfront villa, said Dan Proctor, vice president of vacation rentals for <http://www.vacationspot.com/>. "This year's list of top destinations and vacation rentals are the spots we know customers will want because of great value, great locations, superb amenities and of course, summer fun."

**FAMILY FUN**

The following destinations and rental properties are just right for a summer family trip:

Orlando -- The ultimate family vacation destination -- theme parks galore.

- \* Global Vacation Homes -- Global Vacation Homes offers a variety of homes with all the comforts and necessities for a fun-filled vacation in Orlando. When you're not off on an adventure at the many attractions in the area, enjoy your very own private screened-in swimming pool.
- \* Enclave Suites at Orlando -- A few short miles from Universal Studios with specially designed children's themed suites that will take theme park fun straight to bedtime.

Gatlinburg, TN -- A mountain retreat that offers fun for everyone.

- \* Gatlinburg Towers -- This resort features an indoor pool and indoor hot tub. Located downtown, it is within walking distance of all the area's finest attractions and restaurants.
- \* ResortQuest Private Mountain Cabins -- Nestled in forested settings with panoramic Smoky Mountaintop views, offering private one or two bedroom cabins are complete with fireplaces, grills and hot tubs on the deck.

**SAND AND SURF**



VacationSpot.com identified the following destinations and properties as top beach spots for Summer 2005:

Myrtle Beach, SC — Growing in popularity, Myrtle Beach is southern summer sun and fun.

- \* Sands Ocean Club and Resort -- It has the reputation for being one of the most fun-filled and exciting resorts in the area and features an outdoor beach bar, which includes live music and tropical drinks and has access to the Sands Waterpark (fee may apply).
- \* Coral Beach Resort -- Cited by the Travel Channel as having the best family accommodations in Myrtle Beach, this resort features over three acres of oceanfront fun and relaxation.

Honolulu — The ultimate sand and surf spot. Waikiki is a beach lover's delight.

- \* Aston at the Waikiki Banyan -- One of Waikiki's finest vacation condominium resorts. Great for families, it is located on the Diamond Head side of the island and offers complimentary kids packs and activity planning.
- \* Celebrity Resorts Waikiki -- Studio suites offer guests private kitchens, large bathrooms, and relaxation. Guests will also enjoy the pool, hot tub, waterfall, courtyard and outdoor barbecues.

Daytona Beach — Not just for "spring breakers" Daytona is a relaxing, beach destination.

- \* Hawaiian Inn Beach Resort -- Offers the perfect vacation setting for families or groups looking for larger accommodations. Located on the "World's Most Famous Beach," each spacious suite offers one bedroom, full bath and a separate sitting room with a fully equipped kitchenette.
- \* Tropical Winds Oceanfront -- Located on the "World's Most Famous Beach," the Tropical Winds Oceanfront offers friendly service, lovely accommodations and breathtaking views. This great family beachfront resort features a large Oceanside pool, as well as a heated indoor pool.

#### CITY ESCAPE

VacationSpot.com noted these cities are always right for a break from the ordinary and the places to stay will keep travelers cool and comfortable.

New York City — The city that never sleeps offers incredible shopping, sites and sounds all summer long.

- \* Eastgate Tower -- Eastgate Tower combines the charm of residential Murray Hill with the convenience of Midtown Manhattan. It's a modern yet peaceful setting with close proximity to corporate

offices, Grand Central Station, the United Nations, and popular shopping.

- \* Your Stay Central Park -- Ensnconced within New York City's most notable park, this luxury building showcases studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments within a few blocks of Lincoln Center, The Museum of Natural History and Riverside Park.

Las Vegas — Sin City? Maybe. But Vegas is not just for grown-ups. The pools, dazzling stage shows, world-class gaming and fine dining make it a 24/7 destination.

- \* Summer Bay Resort -- Located approximately one block from the Las Vegas Strip. This resort is spread over 18 acres and features 12 swimming pools and five spas. Spacious one and two bedroom units are available.
- \* Emerald Suites -- Conveniently located on the Las Vegas Strip, on-site amenities include a fully-equipped fitness center, lagoon-style pool, whirlpool and outdoor sundeck.

#### SUMMER ROMANCE & NIGHTLIFE

Miami, Paris and Branson top VacationSpot.com's list of spots for summer romance.

Miami — With its sun-drenched beaches and salsa nights, Miami is hot, hot, hot!

- \* The Mimosa -- This beachfront property features 24-hour room service and an on-site French Creperie. Fishing, scuba diving and surfing are also available.
- \* The Barbizon -- Situated in the middle of Miami's famed South Beach, this all-suite luxury condo hotel features studios and one or two bedroom ocean view suites.

Paris — A trip to Paris is perfect for romance with museums, dining and an ambience that is Unmatched — Ahh Paris!

- \* Eurogroup Champs de Mars -- This beautiful property is located in the center of Paris. Walk to the Eiffel Tower and then return to your spacious unit complete with kitchen and private bath.
- \* Eurogroup Villas Mounmarte -- Charming residence with a host of amenities -- This property offers studios or one-bedroom apartments, some offering balconies with views of the magnificent Sacre Couer cathedral.

Branson, MO — Now hailed as America's live entertainment capital, Branson is also a beautiful retreat for relaxing this summer.

- \* Stonebridge Nightly Rentals -- These luxurious accommodations are situated on the fairways and offer beautiful views of LedgeStone Golf Course. Each unit features countless amenities, including kitchens and living areas.
- \* The Meadows Resort -- This picturesque resort has a waterfall that meanders through the property towards the outdoor swimming pool. Each condominium is designed to provide space and comfort by featuring a large living area and entertainment center.

About VacationSpot.com

VacationSpot.com, powered by Hotels.com, is the most comprehensive resource for booking vacation rentals and bed & breakfasts on the Internet. VacationSpot.com offers thousands of properties in hundreds of destinations. Travelers can book vacation rentals through the Web site, <http://www.vacationspot.com/>, and through live operators available 24 hours a day/7 days a week at 1-888-290-SPOT (7768). Hotels.com is an operating business of IAC/InterActiveCorp (NASDAQ:IAC) CST: 2059975-40.

See  
<http://www.vacationspot.com/>  
for details.

MEDIA INQUIRIES  
Nicole Hockin  
VacationSpot.com  
469-335-1595

[nhockin@hotels.com](mailto:nhockin@hotels.com)

Christine Finnegan  
The Powell Group for VacationSpot.com  
214-522-6005 ext. 104

[cf@powellgroup.net](mailto:cf@powellgroup.net)

CONTACT: Media Inquiries - Nicole Hockin of VacationSpot.com, +1-469-335-1595, [nhockin@hotels.com](mailto:nhockin@hotels.com); or Christine Finnegan of The Powell Group, for VacationSpot.com, +1-214-522-6005, ext. 104, [cf@powellgroup.net](mailto:cf@powellgroup.net)

Web site: <http://www.vacationspot.com/>

Company News On-Call: <http://www.prnewswire.com/comp/915548.html>

SOURCE VacationSpot.com

URL: <http://www.prnewswire.com>

NOTES: NOTE TO EDITORS: Destinations were identified from <http://www.vacationspot.com> booking trends. For more information on this data or specific properties, please contact the VacationSpot.com press office.

LOAD-DATE: May 10, 2005

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PR Newswire US

May 9, 2005 Monday 10:00 AM GMT

**LENGTH:** 1501 words

**HEADLINE:** How to 'Wynn' in Las Vegas;  
TripAdvisor Users Weigh-In with First Reviews of New Wynn Las Vegas Hotel Plus other Practical Advice to be a Winner in Sin City

**DATELINE:** NEEDHAM, Mass. May 9

**BODY:**

NEEDHAM, Mass., May 9 /PRNewswire/ — While the vast majority of TripAdvisor users surveyed are looking for less expensive accommodations, some of the first lucky guests to stay at the new Wynn Las Vegas have posted their reviews on TripAdvisor ( <http://www.tripadvisor.com/> ), the leading travel information and recommendation site on the Web. Here's what they're saying:

1. TripAdvisor Member -- California (May 2, 2005)  
"Even in its opening week, when one could expect things to be a little rocky, the rooms, the service, the atmosphere were terrific. We stayed up on the 30th floor and the view was incredible ... I don't want to mislead anyone - I did not have to consider cost."
2. TripAdvisor Member -- South Carolina (April 28, 2005)  
"This mega resort is amazing. I just wish the art museum was open. It makes the Bellagio and Venetian look dated. I don't think there was another gathering of billionaires in one place like there was for the opening. I just wish I was one of them. The only reason I was invited is because my son helped design the property."
3. TripAdvisor Las Vegas Forum User -- Washington (May 2, 2005)  
"Stayed at Wynn on opening night. The place is fabulous. I have stayed at Venetian, Bellagio, Caesar's Palace. Wynn LV outdoes them all in most every category ... Make sure to bring lots of cash if you stay at Wynn. It is not for the person on a budget."

In a survey conducted this week, 84 percent of TripAdvisor users told us they look for a weekend hotel room rate of less than \$250 in Las Vegas, significantly less than base published rates for a weekend night at the Wynn. Whether or not the new Wynn resort is in the cards, TripAdvisor offers travelers an honest guide to Las Vegas with an insider's look based on the opinions of real travelers. Las Vegas is always hot and rather than rolling the dice with your travel plans, hear what TripAdvisor users have to say about what's in and what's not for your next trip to the 'Strip.'

"Our Las Vegas forum is one of the most active areas of our site," said Michele Perry, TripAdvisor spokesperson. "So we wanted to share with the world some of the great insights that these Vegas zealots impart."

## TRAVEL BUZZ -- TripAdvisor Las Vegas Forum tips on being a winner in Vegas

1. Manage your money -- Opt for cash or travelers' checks since ATMs have daily limits and credit card advances come with fees. Casinos may charge an additional fee. Bring mostly hundreds with some small bills for cabs and tips. Keep your cash in your front pockets for easy access/monitoring. If you bring travelers' checks -- there's no charge for AAA members -- keep your registration number and checks separate. Store your cash or travelers' checks in your room or hotel safe, so you don't have to carry much with you.
2. Dress for success -- The Vegas dress code is casual but some clubs do have dress codes in the evening (no shorts, tanks, flip-flops, etc.), so call before you dress. Even in the blazing hot summer, hotels and casinos like to crank the AC, so pack a sweater.
3. Tip of the day -- Always be tipping. Bring plenty of singles and fives and tip service personnel -- the valet who delivers your car, the porter who delivers your bags, housekeeping, wait staff and most importantly, the dealers at the casinos. If you're unsure how much to tip, ask someone. Here's an extra tip, if you tip the maid at the beginning of your stay, rather than just at the end, you're likely to get special service.

## MUST SEES -- TripAdvisor's top picks for Vegas entertainment

1. Blue Man Group
2. Cirque du Soleil -- Mystere, O or KA
3. Fremont Street Experience
4. Fountains at Bellagio
5. Star Trek: The Experience
6. Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

## HIDDEN GEMS -- TripAdvisor users hit jackpot with secrets for a successful visit

1. Shop 'til you drop -- Best bets for shopping in Vegas are the Forum Fashion Mall, Canal Shops, Desert Passage Shops in The Aladdin and the Fremont Street Experience downtown
2. Celebrity spotting -- If you happen to be in Vegas on the day of a big fight, you're sure to see some stars. Other hot spots for celebrity sightings are the Palms, Hard Rock Hotel, Bellagio, The Four Seasons and the new Wynn.
3. That's right, family-friendly in Vegas -- TripAdvisor users recommend the following hotels as family-friendly: The Orleans, Excalibur, Flamingo, Mirage and Mandalay. All have nice pools and fun activities and attractions for kids.

## RANTS &amp; RAVES -- Pearls of wisdom from experienced TripAdvisor travelers

1. Skip to the head of the line -- "Suggestion...if you're arriving in LAS at a high volume time (not sure what that is...thought it was early evening Fridays/Sats...but we arrived at 1:30 AM and still waited in the horrendous taxi line for an hour...never again)...rent a limo ahead of time and have them waiting for you by luggage..." (posted on TripAdvisor April 30, 2005)
2. Brave the bus -- "Do brave the 301 Bus to Downtown in the early

evening to dark time frame. Don't be afraid to catch it at any stop along the strip..enjoy the ride...and save a bunch in cab fare. Perfectly safe...just takes longer b/c of all the stops."

(posted on TripAdvisor April 30, 2005)

3. Bring your camera -- "Only in Vegas can you see an older gentleman with Bermuda shorts and black socks pulled up to his knees sitting next to Eurochic woman sporting full makeup, stilettos, and pushup bra at 8:00 am?!"  
(posted on TripAdvisor May 2, 2005)
4. Be up Front -- "Open a Front Money account at the Cashiers cage when you first arrive. When you go to a table you can take out money as you need. Do the floor supervisor a favor and take it out in \$500 increments."  
(posted on TripAdvisor May 3, 2005)
5. Get Outta Town -- " ... get out of Vegas to the Grand Canyon for the weekend (rooms in Vegas twice as pricey and v busy on Fri and Sat)."  
(posted on TripAdvisor May 3, 2005)

TOP HOTELS -- TripAdvisor best bets at different price points

1. \$100-200

The Carriage House, 105 E. Harmon Ave.

42 Reviews, most recent posted on April 10, 2005

Average Price: US\$ 149

2. \$200-300

JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort, Spa & Golf, 221 N. Rampart Blvd.

94 Reviews, most recent posted on May 5, 2005

Average Price: US\$ 216

TripAdvisor Best Hotels on the Web 2004 - Winner:

[http://www.tripadvisor.com/pages/bhotw\\_usa.html](http://www.tripadvisor.com/pages/bhotw_usa.html)

3. More than \$300

The Hotel at Mandalay Bay, 3950 Las Vegas Blvd. South

102 Reviews, most recent posted on May 1, 2005

Average Price: US\$ 423

TripAdvisor calculates an average price for each hotel, which is based on the rates of available rooms obtained from booking partners and other independent sources of pricing information. In addition, average hotel prices are updated nightly based on prevailing conversion rates. These are only estimates and not guarantees.

TOP RESTAURANTS -- TripAdvisor's Vegas dining favorites

1. Rosemary's Restaurant, Las Vegas, 8125 Sahara Ave.

Phone: 702-869-2251

Cuisines: American, Seafood, Contemporary, Eclectic, International

Average price: US\$ 80

Special features: Romantic, Business, Local cuisine

2. The Steakhouse, Las Vegas, Circus Circus Hotel & Casino, 2880 Las Vegas Blvd., S.

PR Newswire US May 9, 2005 Monday

Phone: 702-794-3767  
Cuisines: American, Steakhouse  
Average price: US\$ 21-50  
Special features: Breakfast/Brunch, Child-friendly

3. Lawry's, The Prime Rib, Las Vegas, 4043 Howard Hughes Parkway  
Phone: 702-893-2223  
Cuisines: American  
Average price: US\$ 35

#### About TripAdvisor

TripAdvisor.com is the most popular travel information and recommendation destination worldwide (according to comScore Media Metrix, January 2005), with more than 1.6 million unbiased reviews and opinions and covering nearly 200,000 hotels and attractions. A popular travel homebase with more than 13 million unique monthly visitors, TripAdvisor.com offers easy access to major worldwide online travel sites, including Expedia, Orbitz, hotels.com, American Airlines and Travelocity, for the best deals on the Web. TripAdvisor offers travel suppliers a cost-per-click marketing platform, guaranteeing the budgeted number of leads (not just impressions) with every campaign. Winner of dozens of awards, including PC Magazine's Top 100 Web Sites and Forbes Best of the Web, TripAdvisor is part of IAC/InterActiveCorp (NASDAQ:IACI).

#### CONTACT:

Kelly Burke, Mullen  
(978) 468-8936

Kelly.Burke@mullen.com

CONTACT: Kelly Burke of Mullen, +1-978-468-8936, Kelly.Burke@mullen.com

Web site: <http://www.tripadvisor.com/>

SOURCE TripAdvisor

URL: <http://www.prnewswire.com>

LOAD-DATE: May 10, 2005



# **INDEX 296**

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Copyright 2005 Computer Information Network Inc.  
The Sports Network

May 9, 2005 Monday

SECTION: Daily Racing Form - DRF (News Story)

LENGTH: 1129 words

HEADLINE: Bettor turns \$32 into \$164,168

**BODY:**

By DAVE TULEY After Giacomo's shocking 50-1 upset in Saturday's Kentucky Derby, the cashier windows were not too busy in this city's race books. The crowds dispersed quickly.

As exciting as the most exciting two minutes in sports was, it wasn't a very popular result. Except, of course, for the few who were cashing tickets. Everyone cashing an exotic ticket had an IRS form awaiting him or her, but no one was complaining.

One of the lucky ones was Dean St. John of Burbank, Calif. At Bally's, he hit the pick four capped by Giacomo's win, for \$164,168.60. His ticket cost a mere \$32.

"I had a favorite and a longshot in each race, and only one favorite won," St. John said. "I come here every year with friends, and I just got lucky."

He was sharing his story with Morty Turndorf of Los Angeles, who used a \$48 ticket to hit the Derby trifecta for \$133,134.80. Turndorf boxed Noble Causeway, Giacomo, Closing Argument, and Afleet Alex.

"I've owned trotters for 25 years but I really don't know anything about Thoroughbreds," Turndorf said. "This is a fluke - but I'll take it."

It's better to be lucky than good.

Turndorf said the only other bet he made was for his son, who wanted \$20 on Don't Get Mad. Turndorf didn't get mad when told that he could have had the superfecta if he had added Don't Get Mad to his other horses. The super paid \$864,253.50 for a \$1 bet to seven lucky winners.

While Turndorf hit the trifecta with a four-horse box, a regular at the Fiesta Rancho racebook (who wished to remain anonymous) hit the tri with a three-horse box, according to Vinny Sanzare, the race and sports book manager at the Fiesta.

The Station casinos had a secret promotion for Derby Day, and it turned out to be a \$20,000 twin quinella, double the amount offered in the past. They used the Derby and race 12 at Churchill, but after the Derby, Palace Station sports book director Micah Roberts was already calling media outlets to let them know there was a carryover of \$28,680 for Sunday's sixth and ninth races at Hollywood.

On Sunday, there were 29 winning tickets worth \$989 apiece.

The Stratosphere's \$3,000 twin quinella also was not hit Saturday - and also had no live tickets after the Giacomo-Closing Argument finish - and was claimed by a single player on Sunday for \$3,500.

<B>Closing the books on 131st Derby</B>

All in all, it was a great Derby for Vegas race books. Giacomo was a good result for the casinos that had future books.

Most books have had Giacomo between 15-1 and 50-1. There were some tickets out there at 100-1 or so, but they were more than made up for by the tons of torn-up tickets on Bellamy Road, Bandini, Afleet Alex, High Fly, Sun King, and others, as well as colts that fell out on the way to the Derby, such as Declan's Moon, Roman Ruler, and Fusaichi Samurai.

"[Giacomo] was one of the contenders last fall, so his odds were never too high," said Hugh Citron, race and sports book supervisor at Mandalay Bay. "He kept finishing in the money, so you knew he would have the earnings to get in the Derby, so his odds were never raised too much."

In other Derby propositions:

\* Despite fast fractions set on the front end by Spanish Chestnut, the final time of 2:02.75 went over the betting number of 2:02.20 posted at Bally's. Avello opened it at-115 each way, and with the expected fast pace and a favorable weather forecast, bettors pounded the under to-270.

\* In prop bets at the Plaza downtown, the 20 starters went over the earlier posted total of 18, and the winning mutuel of \$102.60 was well over the total of \$19.60. The prop on whether a Nick Zito-trained horse would win came in as a "no" as the-140 favorite, and margin of victory was under 2 1/4 lengths. In a different prop, anyone nailing the margin of victory at a half-length collected at 5-1.

So what are the chances of Giacomo winning the Triple Crown? Before the Derby, Bally's oddsmaker John Avello opened him at 150-1 and he was bet down to 100-1 before the race. On Monday, Avello said he was planning to put up revised odds of 13-1 on Giacomo adding the Preakness and Belmont to his resum?. For those wanting to bet against him pulling off the feat, they'll have to lay-1700, risking \$17 for every \$1 they want to win.

<B>Gorman hits another home run</B>

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The Derby festivities here in Vegas started with the Pick the Ponies Invitational handicapping tournament at the Las Vegas Hilton, which ran Wednesday through Friday.

Giacomo and his connections were the weekend's biggest winners from California, and St. John and Turndorf, cited above, did great, too. But Patrick Gorman, from Ontario, Calif., started the Californians' Derby Week success by winning the top prize of \$38,000 in the Pick the Ponies.

Gorman won the Hilton contest in 1996 in his very first tournament try. He hadn't been back to the winner's circle since, but he often was seen on the leaderboard, including finishing both second and fourth at the Hilton two years ago.

"In baseball terms, I've hit for the cycle, as I was second in Reno, third at the MGM Grand, and fourth at Cal Neva," said the 58-year-old real estate professional.

Players make 10 mythical \$200 across-the-board bets each day, and Gorman was sitting in second place after Thursday with 11,130 points, behind John Ferraro of Clifton Park, N.Y., who had 11,200.

But just like Giacomo leaving the Eastern and Midwestern hopefuls in his wake, Gorman finished with 17,105 points, well ahead of Ferraro at 15,575 and John Steinmetz of Granger, Ind., with 15,015. Ferraro won \$19,000, Steinmetz \$9,000.

Gorman's big winners on Friday were Chantilly Light (\$20) in the fifth race at Calder, Midwatch (\$31.60) in the eighth race at Pimlico, and Silver Strings (\$14.20) in the sixth race at Belmont. All were on the turf.

"I didn't do anything different," said Gorman. "I just went with my strongest plays, and I put them in 30 minutes before the race. I've found that when I've waited to read the tote board, for every one time it helped me there were six or seven times it hurt me."

Jay Kornegay, director of race and sports at the Hilton, said he is working on possibly adding another tournament in August, perhaps a National Handicapping Championship qualifier in addition to the Pick the Ponies tournament on Oct. 26-28, the three days before the Breeders' Cup.

LOAD-DATE: May 10, 2005

# **INDEX 297**

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Copyright 2005 Time Inc.  
Sports Illustrated

May 9, 2005

**SECTION:** LIFE OF REILLY; Pg. 68

**LENGTH:** 828 words

**HEADLINE:** Ink-Stained Wretch

**BYLINE:** Rick Reilly

**BODY:**

Maybe you're surprised to see me naked as a new monkey, am I right?

But I just wanted to give you a quick tour of my tattoos. With only that head shot at the top of the column, people never get to see the real me. Feel free to take notes. No pictures, though. Most of these are copyrighted. I'm shopping my new book to publishers: Dats My Tats!

I'm extremely proud of my body art. You should see the faces on all the jocks I interview when I strip down and show them. You can just see the shock in their eyes: They can't believe a sportswriter could be this down. Plus, I believe I have more tattoos than any other sportswriter in America (other than that one guy at Stars and Stripes), and I know that's something my family is proud of.

In fact, this one across my right nipple is for my mom. It was my first one. I did it myself, at 17, with a white-hot fondue fork. I thought it said MOM when I was writing it, but people tell me that from their side it says WOW. Anyway, I've been a foo' for the 'too ever since.

O.K., this one here, on my right forearm, is Chinese. Not quite sure what it says. The tattoo artist who gave it to me in Detroit said it meant "strong like bull," but a Chinese waiter came up to me in New York last month and said, "Why does it say 'full of bull' on your arm?" So I guess I'd better look into that a bit more.

I try to keep my tats real, y'all. Like this one across my left pec: GOD ROCKS. See, that's God standing on top of the huge pile of rocks with a scepter and all, but that's my face on Him! Hey, I'm not afraid to be openly spiritual that way.

This one across my right biceps is a little bit of a problem, though. It used to say BAD ASS KILLA, but I guess, as I've gotten older, my biceps aren't what they used to be. So now it says BASS KILLA. And now Field & Stream wants me to write freelance pieces. All you wise guys can stop sending me lures and flies, too.

Same with this tat down my right calf. You know I'm a huge Wu-Tang Clan fan, right? So one night in Miami I got one that said, WU-TANG POSSY. Yeah, the guy misspelled posse, but hip-hop isn't exactly a spelling bee, you know. Anyway, I guess I was bigger, more pumped up then, so it kind of wrinkled or something and now it says WUSSY. But that's not how I roll, O.K.? So all you guys at the health club can stop making those cracks behind my back in the steam room. I hear you. I'm not laughing.

What? A chicken? Hell, no, that's not a chicken! That's a damn eagle! You know, you're the third person to say that to me! Let me give you some advice: Those combination tattoo parlor—Laundromat joints, they aren't always such a hot idea.

You're probably wondering about this one across my stomach. See, it used to say, MARIANNE FOREVER, but then she cheated on me with my neighbor, so when I met Annabelle, I changed it to read:

[MARI]ANNE FOREVER

But then she cheated on me with my accountant. Luckily I hooked up with this girl Veronica, so I changed it to:

[MARIANNE FORE]VERONICA

But then she dumped me for my paperboy. It took me three years, but I finally got with a girl named Nicolette, so I changed it to:

[MARIANNE FOREVERO]NICA

But then she got hot about the spelling and cheated on me with Veronica, so now it just reads:

[MARIANNE FOREVERONICA]

Whitney Houston says the greatest love of all is love of self, right? So I'm fine with it.

On my throat? No, I don't have a tat on my throat. Oh, sorry, that's BBQ sauce.

Now look at my feet. This is pretty cool. I've got Don King on my left and an Afroed Dr. J on my right, and when I wiggle my toes, it looks like their hair is blowing in the wind. I keep trying to show it to those guys, but every time I start to take off my socks, they say they've got to take a call.

O.K., now go around to the backside of me and I'll show you the rest. No, really, I insist. I'm not charging you anything.

See that huge one on my back, goes from my neck to my booty? That was supposed to be my favorite rockers, U2. But what happened was, I went into a little tattoo joint in Vegas run by a guy and his wife, and I said to them, "Give me a really big one on my back of U2." They kind of looked at me funny, but finally got to work on it. When I woke up three hours later, I looked in the mirror and it was a life-sized head and shoulders of the husband and wife! I was really torqued off, but all their friends say it's a really good likeness of the couple, so I guess I can live with it.

Now check out my butt. The tattoo on the left cheek is an eye and the one on the right cheek is an eye, and when I do this ... it looks like they wink back and forth! You laugh, but that's how I got Veronica.

O.K., now for the hidden ones ?

\* If you have a comment for Rick Reilly, send it to [reilly@sletters.com](mailto:reilly@sletters.com).

I'm proud of my tattoos. You should see the faces on all the jocks I interview when I strip down and show them.

GRAPHIC: COLOR PHOTO: PETER READ MILLER

LOAD-DATE: May 3, 2005

# **INDEX 298**

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Copyright 2005 Star Tribune  
Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)

May 9, 2005, Monday, Metro Edition

**SECTION:** VARIETY; Pg. 1E

**LENGTH:** 1254 words

**HEADLINE:** VIVA LAS VEGAS;

How a show with a million-to-one shot bucked the odds and hit the jackpot.

**BYLINE:** Neal Justin; Staff Writer

**DATELINE:** Los Angeles, Calif.

**BODY:**

James Caan is dying to get to his golf game. He's just wrapped his last scene of the day for his hit series, "Las Vegas," and is speedwalking across the community college auditorium, doubling today as a nightclub, when he's stopped in his tracks by something more powerful than a barrage of bullets. - "All right, I'll hold the door," he says as a half-dozen scantily dressed beauties enter the makeshift set, each pausing ever so briefly to flirt with "The Godfather" star. "Maybe I won't play golf." - The guests, members of the burlesque troupe Pussycat Dolls, are soon on stage, lip-synching and hip-swiveling to their sultry single, "Sway." Waiting in the wings to make a sexy entrance of his own is former "Superman" star Dean Cain, who's still a superhunk. - Not a bad day to visit the set. -

But then, it's hard to imagine a bland day with a regular cast of headturners such as Nikki Cox, Josh Duhamel, Vanessa Marcil and James Lesure, with outlandish premises in which blackjack players arrive with bombs strapped to their chests, Jean-Claude Van Damme perishes in a motorcycle accident, regulars dine at a topless pancake house and Sports Illustrated model Molly Sims chats with mere mortals.

"When you do a show about Vegas, you can do it about almost anything," said Caan, after tearing himself away from the Dolls. "Everyone comes to Vegas - kings, queens, gangsters, pimps - so the boundaries are kind of broad."

Not a sure thing

That anything-goes attitude has helped to make "Vegas" one of the bright spots on NBC's slipping schedule. It was last season's highest-rated new drama for 18-to-49-year-olds (a coveted demographic for advertisers) and continues to perform well against such weighty competition as "Everybody Loves Raymond," "24" and "Monday Night Football."

But when the show debuted, few were betting on it.

Creator Gary Scott Thompson said that the network barely acknowledged his show at the start of the 2003-04 season, focusing instead on its other five rookies, which included the Alicia Silverstone drama "Miss Match" and a highly anticipated sitcom, "Coupling."

Thompson said that when NBC president Jeff Zucker presented the pilots to advertisers, he lauded praise on every one - until it came to Thompson's turn.

"He said, 'And we have 'Las Vegas.' Well, they like it in Las Vegas," Thompson said. "That's all I got. We were the dark sheep in the family. But at the end of the season, we were the only ones left standing."

Thompson says the lack of hype played in the show's favor, a lesson he learned from "The Fast and the Furious," the 2001 movie he wrote that surprised Hollywood by making nearly \$150 million at the box office despite lack of star power and promotion.

"They threw us up against 'Monday Night Football' and everybody thought, 'We're dead.' But I thought we actually



Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN) May 9, 2005, Monday, Metro Edition

weren't. Here was this little sheltered space where no one was going to pay attention to us and where we may be allowed to grow," Thompson said. "The audience found us, as opposed to us shoving it down their throats."

Playing off a tough-guy image

One might have thought that Caan, a former Michigan State football player and star of the Super Bowl of male tear-jerker movies, "Brian's Song," would be more at home sitting in the booth with John Madden than headlining a lighthearted series that is one Charo appearance away from becoming "The Love Boat in the Desert."

But his performance as Ed Deline, a casino surveillance chief (who mysteriously was promoted to director of operations after a few episodes) is the latest in a string of roles in which Caan pokes fun at his tough-guy image. Sure, he's intimidating when he's trying to roust a cheater or squaring off against one of his old nemeses from his CIA days, but he's just as likely to be flustered by his playgirl daughter (Sims), his angelic wife (Cheryl Ladd) or his protege (Duhamel).

"We all think of him as Sonny Corleone, so when he strays from that, it's terribly funny," Thompson said.

But "Vegas" was not designed as a Caan vehicle, unless, of course, he ended up looking exceptionally hot in a two-piece bikini.

The story lines are spread generously throughout the gorgeous cast, as are the cleavage and butt shots. It's not unusual to see the casino host the world's biggest wet-T-shirt contest or an electronic dragonfly that hovers over women's cleavage, taking pictures. The show's crooks are so cartoonish and slow that Maxwell Smart could drag them down. It seems like every other patron at the fictional casino hits the jackpot, and everyone else gets their hotel room comped. If this were a real business, it'd be broke in three days.

The party atmosphere appears to extend off the set, as well. When Sims walks past Duhamel on the set, they both mention that they may have overdone it on the drinks the previous night.

"There's a fair amount of T&A, but we don't get too gratuitous," said Duhamel, who grew up in Minot, N.D. "We don't take ourselves too seriously."

Time to lighten up a bit

That may be the most valuable card up the show's sleeve.

When it debuted last year, the prime-time schedule was littered with programs from the "Law & Order" and "CSI" school of drama: the grimmer the better.

Thompson said he came up with the concept of lighter fare after watching a particularly graphic episode of "CSI" featuring a child rape and murder.

"I started thinking about stuff I watched as a kid, like 'Charlie's Angels' and 'The A Team.' Even though they were dramas, there was a lot of humor. Wink, wink, nudge nudge," he said. "The idea behind it was to create something I could sit down to, have a beer and tune out."

Cox believes that's exactly what audiences need in these post-9/11 times.

"I think we're pushing it the other way," she said. "People want to look at something silly. It's escapism."

Jumping into that world has drawn a lot of big-name stars, including Sylvester Stallone, Paul Anka, Sugar Ray, Wayne Newton, Dennis Hopper, Snoop Dogg and the Black Eyed Peas.

"The characters you get to play are an awful lot of fun" Cain said. "There's a hyper-reality that exists in Las Vegas and that whole attitude is tremendous fodder for stories about people."

So even though the show films primarily in Culver City - about as unglamorous a spot as you can get - you can feel the "Vegas" vibe on the set. Of course, it doesn't hurt that you're staring at the Pussycat Dolls running through their musical number one more time.

Now all you need is that comped room.

Neal Justin is at [njustin@startribune.com](mailto:njustin@startribune.com).

**VEGAS OR BUST**

Your dreams may come true in Las Vegas, but the odds are against it if you're trying to create a TV show. Most series set there have come up short:

**CRAPPED OUT**

"Viva Vegas!" (2000): In this Telemundo sitcom, two Argentinian brothers tried to make it big in Sin City. They failed.

"Dr. Vegas" (2004): It's a medical drama! It's a mob drama! It's a gambling drama! It's a Rob Lowe bellyflop!

"Lucky" (2003): Long-shot dramedy about a compulsive gambler (John Corbett) who's lost everything but his good looks.

"Nasty Boys" (1990): Benjamin Bratt and Dennis Franz were among the future stars who play Vegas vice cops who dress in ninja costumes.

**LUCKY STREAKS**

"Vegas" (1978-81): Robert Urich is a Las Vegas private investigator who is shocked - shocked! - to find that gambling is going on around here.

"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" (2000-): Forensic experts investigate those who make a killing at the tables.

**GRAPHIC: PHOTO**

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

# **INDEX 299**

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Copyright 2005 Woodward Communications, Inc.  
Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

May 9, 2005 Monday

**SECTION:** Opinion; Pg. a4

**LENGTH:** 461 words

**HEADLINE:** Open government laws gain teeth; New law will be tougher on those few officials who ignore access statutes

**BYLINE:** TELEGRAPH HERALD EDITORIAL

**BODY:**

Last week marked a victory for Iowans concerned about open government – and that should be all of us.

Gov. Tom Vilsack signed a bill putting reasonable "bite" into Iowa's open records and meetings laws by removing public officials who repeatedly violate them. Under the legislation, government officials convicted of breaking the law twice in one term would be removed from office.

This isn't a witch hunt for officials who make an honest mistake – the type of error that can be rectified long before a situation reaches the lawsuit stage. The new law will not hurt those folks. But having the law on the books sends a message to elected officials that they had better learn the law and follow it.

An audit of local governments this year by Iowa newspapers, including the Telegraph Herald, showed that while many government officials are in compliance, many others either don't know or don't care about the law. The new law might inspire an attitude change.

We're all glad Jennifer Wilbanks is safe and sound and not the victim of some horrible crime, but there are some lessons to be learned from the case of the runaway bride.

1) Want to have a less stressful wedding? Don't have 14 bridesmaids. Imagining your 14 best friends all milling around wearing identical dresses is enough to give anyone nightmares. And 600 guests? How many toasters does one couple need?

2) If you choose to skip out days before your wedding, leave a note. It can be short: "Went to Vegas. Will call." But this isn't a Julia Roberts movie. This is real life, where images of Laci Peterson are swirling in people's minds.

3) When the city you live in invests hundreds of hours searching for you, you owe them. Make amends. Just be thankful you don't get socked with the bill for emotional distress.

National Basketball Association coaches had better watch what they say.

The league fined Houston Coach Jeff Van Gundy \$100,000 for stating in a press conference that he believed that game officials were unfairly targeting his star player Yao Ming.

Not a nice thing to say, sure, but \$100,000? Players who get in officials' faces or shout obscenities at fans usually get fined less than \$10,000. Throwing a punch or making obscene gestures won't get a fine approaching \$100,000. You can get caught using steroids four times in Major League Baseball and never get a fine that big. (Players and owners agreed in March to drop the possibility of fines for steroid use.)

So we crack down on coaches being critical of officials because that's where the real problems in sports lie?

Editorials reflect the consensus of the Telegraph Herald Editorial Board: Brian Cooper (chairman), Ken Brown, Libby Burkhart, Monty Gilles, Amy Gilligan and Jim Normandin.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

# **INDEX 300**

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Copyright 2005 Time Inc.  
Time Magazine

May 9, 2005

SECTION: U.S. EDITION; BUSINESS; Pg. 43

LENGTH: 2086 words

HEADLINE: Wynn's Big Bet;

PROFILE The man who brought tigers and treasure ships to Sin City is reinventing himself again, with his most ambitious project yet

BYLINE: Joel Stein/Las Vegas

BODY:

Maybe it makes perfect sense that Steve Wynn would turn into the Mister Rogers of Las Vegas. Sitting in his new hotel in a red V-neck sweater and gray wool pants, Wynn, 63—famous for yelling at employees, taking up steer roping and accidentally shooting off his index finger in his office—is talking about building neighborhoods in his latest land of make-believe. Explaining that his hotel will be a mellow retreat, without the glitz and campy themes that have made him such a sensation in the past, Wynn breaks into a rendition of Bali Ha'i from South Pacific. Then he takes out a pen and starts sketching a picture of his hotel before launching into a touchy-feely description of its varying moods and, leaning forward in his chair, teaching me a little lesson about the importance of loyalty. I am deeply afraid we are going to hug.

If anyone is allowed to morph this dramatically, it should be Steve Wynn. After all, Wynn turned a city that was a pit stop for male vice into an international family destination. Expectations that he was going to top his past extravaganzas were so huge that when he started construction on the lush, waterfall-laden, 140-ft. man-made mountain in front of his new hotel, the rumor in town was that he was building a ski resort on the Strip. But Wynn Las Vegas, which opened last week, exudes an anti-Vegas, almost Buddhist quietude. There's no theme, no showstopper like the volcano he built outside the Mirage in 1989, the pirate ships he put outside Treasure Island in 1993 or the giant pond he created with fountains choreographed to songs for the front of the Bellagio in 1998. "Theme parks are a collection of wows," says the man who not so long ago turned Vegas into a theme park. "Hotels are places that have a range of emotions. You're supposed to tarry." Yes, Steve Wynn wants you to come to Las Vegas to ... tarry.

"This is the most understated overstated hotel in the world," says Wynn. "It's held back just a touch." Even though it's ridiculous to describe a \$2.7 billion, 2,716-room hotel with a man-made lake, massage tables in the suites and Wynn's huge signature on the top of the building as understated, in Vegas terms, he's right. There are low ceilings, short hallways and lots of nooks that make the place feel intimate and isolated. In a radical break from casino logic, there is natural sunlight everywhere, and all the restaurants and bars have outdoor seating. The mountain shields the hotel from the Strip, so you feel as if you're separated from the insanity, even though it's just outside. It's like doing Vegas from a luxury box.

The transformation began a few years ago when Elaine, his wife of 42 years, started getting into Buddhism. Last year he had a two-hour meeting with the Dalai Lama, which she says profoundly changed his life. "Whenever Steve gets all uptight and starts to blow, I tease him and say that's not what the Dalai Lama would do, and it helps him greatly because he knows intellectually that he's on the right path," she says. "Guys who are entrepreneurial tend to give short shrift to the family. He's become a much better family man as he gets older. He's become a very good grandfather."

You can see his new Buddhist-inspired restraint in the intricate details on the new hotel, which Wynn is obsessed with, despite an eye disease that causes him to rely on subtle tricks such as holding on to people's arms when he talks to them and leading them into direct sunlight. "His challenge actually helps him," says Don Marrandino, Wynn Las Vegas' original general manager, who has nothing but praise for Wynn, despite having been fired. "He can focus way more on space. You know how some people can close their eyes and see things? He can do that all the time." Five years ago, after Kirk Kerkorian's MGM Grand bought Wynn's Mirage Resorts for \$6.4 billion, Wynn spent 11/2 months with a sketchbook,

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walking around the 215 acres he acquired at more than \$1 million each when he bought the Desert Inn (which he had torn down). He also hired real estate mogul Irwin Molasky to quietly buy up the adjacent homes. "When I bought this piece of property, I laughed," says Wynn. "I said, 'This is the most valuable piece of property in the western part of America.' I had to [pay] \$270 million, and I had it that morning."

Wynn came up with the idea for the mountain as a way to block the view of the aluminum spaceship-themed entrance to the Fashion Show Mall across the street. "A lot of these guys will hire architects and designers to come up with ideas. Steve is the driving force in all his buildings," says Frank Fertitta III, 43, the CEO of Station Casinos and a longtime friend, one of the group of young Vegas tycoons Wynn calls his "homeboys."

In fact, it's the challenge of getting it just right—of capturing exactly what America wants—that Wynn finds intoxicating. Looking back, he has little sentimentality for his earlier projects. "I don't latch onto things. They're just exercises in practicing my trade," he says. But in the thick of creation, he's fully engaged. "The 2 1/2 years of designing this hotel were like 90 days to me. No one saw me. I worked six days a week, and I was in ecstasy," he says. "Then we had to get financing, and that was work." It dawned on Wynn that his earlier, exhibitionist model—battling treasure ships outside Treasure Island, for example—needed to be turned, literally, outside in. "I thought, Could I have been wrong all this time about the feature being in the front of the hotel?" says Wynn. "The audience shouldn't be on the sidewalk. It should be inside—eating, drinking, gambling, shopping. I had it 180 degrees wrong." Now he regrets giving people across the street at the Paris hotel free shows of his dancing waters at the Bellagio. "If I knew this then, I wouldn't have put tigers for people to walk by at the Mirage. I would have integrated that experience organically."

Yet despite all the talk of organic spaces, Wynn can't completely keep the old showman in check. His original plan for the hotel called for a small, intimate, all-suites establishment. That didn't last long. It was also supposed to be named *Le Reve*, after the Picasso painting, instead of Wynn, after himself. He was certain for years that he wanted all the signs in the hotel to be sleek and minimal. Then he saw the giant Louis Vuitton sign in his retail space a few weeks before the opening. "Now that's a sign!" he told his employees. All others were soon replaced by signs twice their size. The guy who once had Frank Sinatra pinch his cheeks for a commercial and who earlier this year had helicopters shoot videotape of him while he stood on a 5-ft.-wide catwalk on the roof of his 50-story hotel for a new TV ad is just getting going when it comes to promotion. His giant signature is not only on the top of the building and the clock radios in every room but also underneath the sheets on the mattresses. The man is even branding himself to his maids.

He plans to slap that giant signature around the world. His company, Wynn Resorts, is set to open Wynn Macau in China next year, has bid for a gaming license in Singapore, is investigating a London property and in 2008 will finish Encore, a \$1.4 billion, all-suites hotel on 20 acres adjacent to the Wynn. Within a decade, the company intends to rip up Wynn Las Vegas' brand-new, Tom Fazio—designed golf course to build housing developments and entertainment facilities.

Wall Street, suddenly, loves the plan. When Wynn Resorts went public in 2002, demand for shares was so soft that Wynn put up \$150 million for the \$13-a-share stock. Since then the stock has soared, closing at \$53 last Friday. Much of that price is high expectation about his new Macau property, due in 2006, which is part of an influx of American casinos setting up shop there.

For some people, building a \$2.7 billion hotel—with plans for a \$1.4 billion one next door—would be gambling, but Wynn doesn't see it that way. He agreed to take his new company public only after Wynn Resorts president Ron Kramer argued that the influx of cash would remove pressure to open the new casinos quickly or generate immediate profits. "Steve is a very conservative guy. He is not a gambler in any sense of the word," says Kramer. "He said, 'I want to build a company that will outlast me.' That's a very different point of view than someone who buys a property and leverages himself 6 to 1."

Oddly, Wynn isn't very interested in gambling. His bingo-parlor-owner father, to whom Steve was reportedly close, was a compulsive gambler. On the eve of his father's cancer surgery, as an English major at the University of Pennsylvania, Steve sat at his father's bed, tallying more than \$200,000 in the elder Wynn's outstanding debt. Steve made his first major foray into Vegas in 1972, buying an interest in the Golden Nugget, a seedy downtown casino. He overhauled the place, then built a new Golden Nugget in Atlantic City, N.J. (with financing from junk bonds floated by Michael Milken). His next big move put an indelible stamp on the Strip: Wynn opened the Mirage, a shimmering temple of camp, with white tigers behind glass in the lobby, Siegfried and Roy, and a volcano. Gambling was still the big money earner, but with Mirage, Wynn transformed Vegas into a middle-class family destination.



Nowadays Wynn hopes to shrink gambling to less than 45% of the overall take at his hotels; he says he would remove it from his tranquil new oasis entirely if he could. "I do need the cash flow from the casino to justify the things I do," says Wynn. "I wouldn't want to dumb down my hotel—not at this point in my life. How many guys get to try to build the best hotel in the world?"

Wynn believes the best Vegas hotel will cater to what people really crave: calmness. He figures that now that he has helped defang gambling and strippers to the point where they're in every town and on many websites, the real luxury is doing swankier versions of those things in a relaxing environment. Instead of squeezing in an hour to bet online while your kids are yelling, you get to play blackjack by the pool and stare at a waterfall while dancing at 3 a.m. The Mister Rogers of Vegas is hoping you'll want to take off your sweater, put on your slippers and sleep off your sins in one of the classiest hotels in the world. \*

#### BOX STORY:

#### THE (LOONY) LIVING LEGACY OF STEVE WYNN

Las Vegas as adult theme park was his idea. Here's a look at his biggest projects

#### GOLDEN NUGGET

In his first major Las Vegas bet, Wynn bought 12% of the seedy downtown gambling hall and hotel in the early 1970s. He soon controlled the entire 1,900-room property. Out went the dated, Old West design motif. In its place: a bit of glamour, marble and brass accents, and AAA four-diamond service. It was the start of a winning streak, and with Wynn's magic touch, the Nugget regained much of its luster

#### THE MIRAGE

With a 54-ft. volcano erupting every 15 min. during the evening, prowling white tigers in glass cages and a 20,000-gal. fish tank behind the front desk, the Mirage, which opened in 1989, brought Disney to Vegas. The star attraction of the \$700 million resort: illusionists Siegfried and Roy

#### TREASURE ISLAND

A swashbuckling follow-up to the Mirage, Wynn's \$450 million, pirate-themed casino-hotel opened next door in 1993. Its claim to fame: a free show featuring battling buccaneers, two fully rigged ships and exploding cannons, performed nightly on an artificial lagoon. Also making its debut: the first Vegas Cirque du Soleil show, Mystere

#### THE BELLAGIO

Wynn's \$1.6 billion, Italian-themed resort is elegant and classy, not words you would associate with Sin City back in 1998. But the Bellagio has it all: a major art collection, high-end boutiques, top-notch restaurants and a dazzling \$40 million fountain that dances in perfect synchronization to everything from Puccini arias to show tunes

#### WYNN LAS VEGAS

With his past properties sold off, Wynn hopes for a comeback with this new \$2.7 billion, 50-story hotel, designed to be hidden from the crowds outside on the Strip. Who else would build an eight-story, pine-covered mountain in the middle of the desert? Other Wynnesque details: a sound-and-light show, cascading waterfalls, a Ferrari dealership, 18 restaurants and 31 stores

**GRAPHIC:** COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, COMEBACK KID:Wynn shows off his new \$2.7 billion resort on the Strip; COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, HIGH FLYERS, A curved escalator winds toward a parasol-decorated bar area; COLOR PHOTO: JOHN BRYSON—TIME LIFE PICTURES/GETTY, GOLDEN NUGGET, COLOR PHOTO, THE MIRAGE, COLOR PHOTO: JAMES MARSHALL—CORBIS, TREASURE ISLAND, FOUR COLOR PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES (4), THE BELLAGIO, COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, WYNN LAS VEGAS, COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, SHOE TIME: You can shop till you drop at the hotel's elegant esplanade; COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, GOLDEN URNS:The resort boasts 18 eateries, like this one; COLOR PHOTO: DAVID STRICK—REDUX FOR TIME, WHIMSY:The colorful ice cream parlor

LOAD-DATE: May 1, 2005

# **INDEX 301**

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Copyright 2005 Times Newspapers Limited  
The Times (London)

May 9, 2005, Monday

SECTION: Features; Times2; 11

LENGTH: 742 words

HEADLINE: Viva Las Vegas? Nah, it's a craps town

BYLINE: Jonathan Gornall

BODY:

IT WAS, in the end, all about beer and clothing in Las Vegas. The bride wore a mini wedding dress with matching white leather cowboy boots, the groom a stylish brown jacket and slashed, faded jeans and, considering that neither had slept a wink the night before, preferring instead to hit The Strip for one last stag and hen night, they both looked pretty good.

By the time my son Adam had gained a bride and I had gained a daughter-in-law (albeit a daughter-in-Nevada-state-law, a jurisdiction which, judging by the amount of "illegal" yet blatant prostitution in town - "Naked girls, to your room, 24 hours a day"-would seem to be something of an oxymoron) I had been in Vegas for two days, approximately 48 hours too long.

Still, as weddings go, it was short and, given the setting-a shack at the seediest end of the extremely seedy strip-curiously sweet (despite the chapel's next-door neighbour, a closed and derelict motel, still displaying the sign revealing that its owners had failed to get the Vegas joke: "No wedding party allowed: stay out").

Romance is an odd commodity for a town like Vegas-so blatantly and gratingly founded on greed, tacky escapism and cynicism-to be dealing in, but thousands flock there every week to tie the knot (the Brits, at least, pleading irony, despite the production-line nature of the "joke").

Jon Bon Jovi-who, like Adam, married at the Graceland Chapel-isn't the only one who has given love a bad name there, from Mickey Rooney (who liked the Little Church of the West so much when he married Ava Gardner in 1942 that he returned to repeat the experience with seven other women) to the likes of Frank Sinatra and Mia Farrow, Richard Gere and Cindy Crawford and, last year, Britney Spears and whoever that bloke was that she divorced two days later.

Vegas isn't romantic. It's a gigantic, hollow, tacky theme park packed with fat, sweaty losers waddling up and down The Strip-a kind of elongated Leicester Square without the class-and hoping against hope to trade up their social security cheques into a fortune, despite the evidence all around them that the only way to make money in Vegas-as the serial "destination" hotel owner Steve Wynn has smugly remarked-is to own a hotel there.

Linda Lou, a dealer in one of the hotels (I forget which: Vegas is one sprawling, travelator-linked conurbation of slot machines and obscene all-you-can eat "destination" buffets) had her own take on Wynn's maxim. In an instantly successful bid to get into the Vegas spirit, I sat down at her roulette table and asked her to show me how the game worked. "That's easy, hon," she said. "You give me your money, and I keep it."

And she did.

It's hard to say what's the worst thing about Vegas, but low-life central Circus Circus (so bad they named it twice) has to be down there. Even back in 1971 Hunter S. Thompson divined, through his ether, speed and cocaine-induced psychosis, that it was the grimmest of the grim, "what the whole world would be doing on a Saturday night if the Nazis had won the war". But then you see New York and Paris and the Luxor, built since his time, and the dumb, gawping crowds, clutching ice-creams, sucking on 18in carry-out cocktail tubes and staring in Homer-like awe at talking statues

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and scale versions of the Manhattan and Parisian skylines and a ten-storey Sphinx that is actually bigger than the original, and you realise that, some time since 1971, there must have been a rematch and the Nazis actually did win the war.

The best metaphor for the neon-bathed Vegas is in the vast white light that stabs heavenwards from the top of the Luxor's black pyramid: the shaft holds a glittering swirl of what appears to be some kind of stardust but is actually a whirling column of voracious bats gorging themselves on the crowds of insects lured helplessly into the light.

The best thing about Vegas? The I-15 highway, heading west, down which we fled in a rented Mustang convertible (the luggage wouldn't fit in the goddamned European Audi) to the relative civilisation and sanity of California. There, in the Malibu Country Mart—a low-key, open-air mall off the Pacific Coastal Highway and a Californian version of Stellar Street—we bumped into the post-Gere Ms Crawford in a pet shop, buying a dog for her daughter. You'd think that, having once been sold one pup, she'd have learnt her lesson.

jonathan.gornall@thetimes.co.uk

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

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CNN.com

May 9, 2005 Monday 3:30 PM EST

**SECTION: ENTERTAINMENT**

**LENGTH:** 447 words

**HEADLINE:** EW review: 'Entourage' is a star

**BYLINE:** By Dalton Ross Entertainment Weekly

**BODY:**

On paper, the concept behind "Entourage" sounds annoying as hell.

A bunch of freeloading morons latch on to their movie-star buddy and genially parade around Hollywood like self-entitled jerks. But on screen, it's something else.

Sure, this crew can wreak havoc, but deep down they mean well ... sometimes. And the star in question, Vincent Chase, may be a lazy pretty boy, but Adrian Grenier is so comfortable in the role that he manages to come off as oddly endearing.

While Grenier plays the big shot on the show, he (and everyone else) is upstaged by Chase's half brother, Johnny Drama (Kevin Dillon, a guy who knows something about having a more famous sibling — in his case, Matt).

Whether bragging about his cheesy old sci-fi series, "Viking Quest," or discussing a one-sided feud he has with talk-show host Jimmy Kimmel, Dillon hilariously nails the proud yet pathetic has-been.

As creator Doug Ellin says in one of three mostly uninspiring commentaries, "Kevin's just gotten to the point where anything that comes out of his mouth just makes me laugh."

The only other extra is a rote making-of doc with scintillating tidbits like that the cast bonded during "a crazy weekend in Vegas" and shooting on location is "a lot more fun."

On the show (unlike in the extras) comic relief runs rampant. Sometimes it works: Jeremy Piven (who, strangely, grows more hair the older he gets) scores as neurotic agent Ari Gold. Other times it doesn't: Jerry Ferrara's Turtle, meant to be hysterically irksome, ends up being just irksome.

Beyond portraying the posse's social dynamics, "Entourage" excels in its take on major career moments transpiring under the most casual circumstances — never underestimate the power of weed and strip clubs in sealing a deal.

EW Grade: B+

'In Good Company'

Reviewed by Jeff Labrecque

With his nuanced turn as a humbled magazine exec whose new 26-year-old boss (Topher Grace) has eyes for his college-age daughter (Scarlett Johansson), Dennis Quaid continues his recent trend of strong performances ("The Rookie," "Far From Heaven"), officially graduating from his days of grade-B cheese ("Innerspace," "Enemy Mine").

The bizarre love triangle of "In Good Company" works mostly because Quaid's vulnerability is even more endearing than his previous roguish charm. Further proof: one of 10 deleted scenes in which his character makes a disastrous attempt to color his hair.

Extras: There's commentary from Grace and writer-director Paul Weitz, and a 24-minute featurette introducing sports

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magazine execs, agents and casino moguls that reeks of the very corporate "synergy" the movie derides.

EW Grade: B+

More from Entertainment Weekly: EW DVD & Video

**LOAD-DATE:** May 12, 2005

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Copyright 2005 Lancaster Newspapers, Inc.  
SUNDAY NEWS (LANCASTER, PA.)

May 8, 2005, Sunday

SECTION: SPORTS, Pg. C-10, LANCASTER SCENE

LENGTH: 8972 words

HEADLINE: LANCASTER SCENE

**BODY:**

If you wish to have an item in the LANCASTER SCENE column of the Sunday News, please send a note to the Sunday News sports department, P.O. Box 1328, Lancaster, PA 17608. Our e-mail address is [sunnewssports@lpnews.com](mailto:sunnewssports@lpnews.com). The fax number is 291-4950. Items must be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed by Thursday, to be included in the column, and will be run no more than three consecutive weeks.

**Baseball**

The 5th annual Diplomat Summer Baseball Camp will be held this summer on the following schedule: boys ages 7-12, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. June 20-23, cost \$150. Boys 13-16, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. June 27-30, cost \$100. Basics and daily doubleheader will be part of session one. Session two will include specific instruction. For more info call Brett Boretti at 358-4530 or e-mail to [brett.boretti@fandm.edu](mailto:brett.boretti@fandm.edu).

Lanco AAU 10-under baseball team is currently holding tryouts. Games will be played in tournaments from May through September and will not interfere with local league play. For more info call Bob at 898-4816 or Scott at 892-6929.

The Hempfield High School coaching staff will conduct a baseball camp June 13-16 at the varsity baseball field. Cost: \$70. Applications are available in all district offices. For more info call Tom Getz at 898-8470.

The Optimist Club of Lancaster will hold the annual Charlie H. Siegel Memorial Midget-Midget Baseball Tournament Friday and Saturday, July 8-9, at Thomas Field in New Danville (Rte. 741). For teams age 12-under from league (not all-star teams). Single elimination. For more info call Russell Ott at 569-3205.

**Basketball**

The Donegal Youth Boys Basketball Camp will be held from 9 a.m.-noon June 13-17 at Donegal Middle School. Current grades 4-8 will be included in the camp. The cost is \$60. Each camper will receive a camp t-shirt. Contact coach Dell Jackson at 872-2384 for more information and an application. Deadline: June 1.

Bob Schlosser's Basketball Day Camps will be held at Elizabethtown College this summer on the following schedule: boys, July 5-8 for grades 3-6, July 11-15 for grades 7-12. Girls, June 13-17 for grades 4-12. Discount for early registration. For more info call Bob Schlosser at 361-1141.

Warwick Girls Basketball Camp will be held from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. July 11-15. Open to girls entering grades 3-9. Cost: \$75. For more information call Matt Reber 626-3703.

Warwick Girls basketball program will sponsor a Spring Shootout for varsity girls teams May 20 and 21. For more information call Matt Reber 626-3703.

GEARS is organizing its summer basketball leagues. Play will begin in June. Games will be played at the Elizabethtown Community Park with rain locations in the Elizabethtown High School and Middle School. Three-on-three league will be held on Monday evenings and 5-on-5 will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Costs are \$100/team for 3-on-3; \$400/team for 5-on-5 plus \$6 nonresident fee. Registration deadline is Thursday, May 26. For more information contact the GEARS office at 367-0355.

Black Knight Shooting and Skills Training sessions will be limited to 16 students per session. There will be six

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sessions: grades 7-9, 1-3 p.m. June 27-30, 1-3 p.m. July 5-8, and 2-4 p.m. July 18-21. Grades 4-6, 3-5 p.m. June 27-30, 9-11 a.m. July 5-8 and noon to 2 p.m. July 18-21. Cost: \$65 per session. For more info call Warren Goodling at 898-5552.

The Black Knight Basketball Camp will be held at Hempfield High School. Week one, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. July 11-15, is for boys entering grades 5-9. Week two, 9 a.m.-noon July 18-22, is for boys entering grades 2-4. Cost: \$95 for week one, \$65 for week two. For more info call Warren Goodling at 898-5552.

The Warwick Boys' Basketball program will sponsor a Mini Team Camp/Shootout for varsity, JV and 9th grade boys' teams Friday and Saturday, May 27-28. For more info call 892-1592.

The Warwick Boys' Basketball Camp will be held June 20-24 at Warwick High School. For grades 3-9. For a flier call 892-1592.

Ironhead Advanced Basketball Training, a 10 week intense program, will be held in Lancaster from July 11-September 16. With 3 sessions per week, this is the most intense and complete basketball training available. Coach Chris Burns will develop offensive and defensive footwork, improve positioning and ball handling techniques, and make your game faster and more explosive through use of a complete speedcity training program. Students also will get extensive shooting work on the only Dr. Dish machine in the area, allowing them to take as many as 1200 game type shots in an hour. For more information or to apply, contact Chris Burns at 656-0460. Only four students accepted in each class. Boys' grades 10-12, 8-9, 6-7 and same in girls. Serious inquiries only.

The Fred Thompson Boys' Basketball Camp will be held at Millersville University this summer, commuter camp June 13-17, and overnight/commuter camp July 10-14. For more info call Fred Thompson at 871-2047 or Damian Pitts at 872-3799.

New Holland Basketball League is an outdoor men's league, 5 vs 5 with a max of 10 players per roster. Team registration fee is \$300 plus a \$50 deposit. We will have PIAA referees. The deposit will be returned if the team attends all the games. Teams that played last year will have a \$50 discount. Registrations are due May 9. Trophies and awards will be given. Numbered uniforms are preferred. E-mail [jiobedoyaaol.com](mailto:jiobedoyaaol.com) for further information or call 354-8498 (leave message).

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Women's Basketball. The league runs from May 23 through Aug. 29 and is played on Monday nights. Cost: \$430 per team, which includes official's fees. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18 at 6 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Men's Basketball. The league runs from May 25 through Aug. 31 and is played on Wednesday nights. Cost: is \$430 per team, which includes official's fees. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Men's Over 30 Basketball. The league runs from June 5 through Aug. 28 and is played on Sunday nights. Cost: is \$430 per team, which included official's fees. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18 at 7 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Ephrata Rec Center has openings in its men's summer basketball leagues. Games are Monday evenings for the A league, Wednesday evenings for the B league and Thursday evenings for the C league beginning the week of May 16. Cost: \$499 per team. For more info call Jim Summers at 738-1167.

The Juniata College Men's Basketball summer camps will be held June 12-15 (for boys in grades 9-12), June 16-17 (shooting camp for boys and girls grades K-12), June 23-25 and July 14-16 (team camp for high school boys) and Aug. 1-5 (day camp/mini-camp for boys and girls in grades K-10). For more info call camp hotline at 814-641-5329 or Greg Curley at 814-641-3521.

#### Biathlon

Pennsylvania Biathlon Club is sponsoring the second annual Lancaster County Summer Biathlon to be held at Southern Lancaster County Farmers and Sportsman's Association. Summer biathlon fuses the physically and mentally

demanding sport of distance running with the concentration and steady hand of target shooting. This event will be held on June 4, with a beginners instructional clinic at 8:30 a.m. and race start at 10:00 a.m. The registration cost is \$18 and all equipment is provided. Contact Neal Trump at 872-4188 or e-mail [n.trumpcomcast.net](mailto:n.trumpcomcast.net) for more information and a registration form.

#### Bicycling

The Cycle Smart Bicycling Program offers the following events, supervised by certified instructors: Cycling Days from 1-4 p.m. Saturdays through June 11 at the Toys R Us on Harrisburg Pike (test your skills on a specially designed course); time trials from 9:30-11 a.m. Saturday mornings May 14, 28 and June 11 at Reidenbaugh Elementary School, Manheim Township and May 21 and June 4 at Riverview Elementary School, East Donegal Township (age group competition, road bikes available for participants). For more info to go [www.dreamriderprojects.org](http://www.dreamriderprojects.org).

#### Bowling

AMF Rocky Springs Lanes is offering the following summer leagues: Adult/Youth, Kid's Alley (toy surprise every week), Boy/Girl Scout, Hersheypark (passes to Hersheypark), Bowl your way to Vegas, Have a Ball (receive a new bowling ball), Summer Seniors, Scratch DBLs and many more. For more info call 394-6162 or stop in at 1495 Millport Road.

#### Bus trips

Phillies-Marlins at Citizens Bank Park Saturday, July 16 with Ephrata Rec Center. Seats on club level, section 236. Bus leaves the Rec Center at 4 p.m. for a 7:05 p.m. game. Cost: \$45, payable when reserving a seat. Telephone reservations are accepted with a MasterCard, Visa, Discover or MAC card. Alcoholic beverages and smoking prohibited.

GEARS is running a bus trip to the Phillies-Red Sox game at 1:25 p.m. Saturday, June 24 at Citizens Bank Park. The seats for this 1:20 p.m. game are in section 429. Date for this game is Saturday, June 25. Departure from the Elizabethtown High School parking lot at 10 a.m. Cost is \$60 per person. To register call the GEARS office at 367-0355.

#### Camps

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering a variety of summer camps for ages 3-high school. All kids receive a ball, t-shirt, two City Islanders tickets and a certificate of completion. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

Living Word Academy will host combination soccer/basketball day camps for athletes going into grades 4-8. Boys' camp date is June 18-22 and the girls' camp date is July 13-17. Soccer outside in the morning and basketball inside during the afternoon. Great coaches make this a very fun camp for the kids. Lunches, t-shirts and water bottles provided. Contact 556-0711 ext. 209 for more information.

Mt. Calvary Christian School will hold the following sports camps this summer: basketball for girls in grades 3-8, July 20-24; basketball for boys in grades 3-8, June 27-July 1; boys and girls soccer for grades 2-6, Aug. 1-5. Cost: \$50 for half-day camps and \$70 for full day. For more info call coach Nelson at 367-1649, ext. 108.

#### Canoeing

Manheim Township Parks and Rec Dept. is offering a Basic Canoeing course June 17-18. Water safety and boat rescue techniques will be taught Friday evening. Saturday class will include paddling techniques and a downstream trip. Cost: \$40 for Manheim Township residents, \$45 for non-residents. For more info call 290-7180.

#### Card shows

A sports cards and collectibles show will be held from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 14 at the Quality Inn, 2363 Oregon Pike, two miles north of Rte. 30 on Rte. 272. Free admission. For table info call 569-3780.

Cheerleading Elite Star Explosion Cheerleading All Stars will be holding open gyms from 6-8 p.m. May 10, 12, 17 and 19 at the Grace Brethren Church Gym behind Darrenkamps in Willow Street. Tryouts will be held from 6-8 p.m. May 24-26. Grades 1-12 are welcome. For more info call Angie at 687-0524 or e-mail to [Stanley859aol.com](mailto:Stanley859aol.com).

Warwick Midget Football cheerleading will hold registration from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 19 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on W. Orange Street. Midget cheerleading are open to youth ages 8-14 (as of 9-1-05). Cost is \$50 with fundraiser participation; \$75 without fundraiser participation. There are sibling discounts. For more info, go to

[www.eteamz.com/WMF](http://www.eteamz.com/WMF).

The Synergy Elite All-Star Cheerleaders will be holding tryout practices the week of May 16-21 at the Synergy Elite Cheer Gym off S. West End Ave. behing the Slaymaker building in Lancaster. Fee: \$15. Males and females welcome. For more info call Brenda at 299-3626 or Sue at 872-0876.

Cheer United All Stars tryout practices will be held from 6-7:30 p.m. May 10, 11, and 12 at A Herr Park in Landisville. Tryouts will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 15 at Astra Gymnastics Center. Jr Squad 2nd-6th grade and Sr Squad 7th-12th grade. A \$20 nonrefundable registration fee is due May 10. For more information, please call Jenn Bender at 391-0135 or email to CUASTARS03aol.com.

#### Coaching openings

Elizabethtown High School seeks a girls' head varsity field hockey coach. For more info call Joseph Macri, Director of Athletics, at 367-1533. For an application contact Human Resources, Elizabethtown Area School District, 600 E. High St. Elizabethtown, PA 17022, 367-1521, ext. 32117.

Lancaster Country Day School seeks head and assistant coaches for its field hockey and golf programs. Send resumes to Dale Mylin, Director of Athletics, Lancaster Country Day School, 725 Hamilton Road, Lancaster, PA 17603 or call 392-2916, ext. 252.

Warwick School District seeks a senior high field hockey assistant coach, junior high assistant girls' basketball coach, senior high assistant cheering coach, junior high assistant field hockey coach and senior high assistant girls' volleyball coach. Recent Pa. background checks required. If interested, send letter of application and resume to Terry A. Kauffman, Director of Athletics, Warwick High School, 301 W. Orange St., Lititz, PA 17543.

#### Field hockey

The Lancaster Lebanon Chapter of Field Hockey Officials is looking for umpires for the fall season. The games are at all of the schools in Lancaster and Lebanon Counties. High Schools, Junior Highs and Private schools. Game time is 4 p.m. M-F and there are also Saturday games. Game fees are paid directly to the umpires prior to the start of the game. Go to [www.PIAA.org](http://www.PIAA.org) for an umpire application and testing site information. Or call Carole Manderewicz at 556-0929.

Cocalico Field Hockey program is offering a youth camp for girls completing grades 3rd-7th from 3:15-5:15 p.m. May 23-26 at the Cocalico Middle School gym. Cost is \$45. Equipment packages are available. To register or for more information please contact Krista Page at: [krista\\_pagecocalico.k12.pa.us](mailto:krista_pagecocalico.k12.pa.us).

Living Word Academy will host a field hockey day camp for girls going into grades 4-8 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 20-24 including great teaching, fun games, water bottle, t-shirt, lunches and a hockey stick. For more information, call 556-0711 ext. 209.

#### Fitness/training

Unique Physique in York will hold its third annual Sports Combine and Speed Clinic from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. May 21 at the Blast Indoor Arena. The clinic will teach football players to develop speed and quickness under the instruction of pro players and coaches such as former Pittsburgh Steeler Jon Witman. There will also be skill instruction for playters and coaches. Fees: \$79 for early registration, \$999 after May 15. For more info call 755-2639 or e-mail to [kerchner8aol.com](mailto:kerchner8aol.com).

The Lancaster Family YMCA is hiring Certified Personal Trainers, instructors and fitness trainers. All applicants must have current First Aid/CPR/AED certification. If interested and qualified call Thomas Baughman at 397-7474, ext. 134.

Tranquility Center for Well-Being is taking registrations for morning, afternoon and evening classes in May and June, including Yoga, Pre-Natal Yoga, Pilates, Over 40 Stretch 'N Be Fit, Gentle-Special Needs and Tai Chi. Fee: \$60 for six 90-minute classes. For more info call 390-0760 or go to [www.tranquility-center.com](http://www.tranquility-center.com).

Ephrata Rec Center is offering a Hatha Yoga class at 6 a.m. Wednesday for 11 weekly sessions. For more info call Jean Wentz at 738-1167, ext. 206.

Footwork, Footspeed & Plyometric Training Camp will be held Aug. 15-19 in Lititz. For players of all sports. Ages 7-10 from 9-10 a.m., ages 11-14 from 10-11 a.m., and ages 15-18 from 11 a.m.-noon. Tuition: \$35. For more information visit our website at [www.ONEonONESoccer.com](http://www.ONEonONESoccer.com) or call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [infoONEonONESoccer.com](mailto:infoONEonONESoccer.com).

## Football

Former Central Penn Piranha player Roger Crosby will hold a defensive backs clinic for all interested players ages 10-17 June 4-5. For more info, call Crosby at 299-3357.

The Manheim Touchdown Club banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 18 at Lancaster Host Resort. Reception at 6 p.m. Gene Upshaw, Director of the NFL Player's Association, will be the keynote speaker. The club's high school and college football players of the year will be honored, the club's inaugural Gene Upshaw Division II Line of the Year award will be given. Numerous college and high school coaches are planning to attend. Also, the players and coaching staffs for the Lancaster-Lebanon League Tri-County All-Star game will be recognized. Coach Dave Gingrich from Cocalico will coach the South All-Stars and Coach Bill Giovino from Lebanon will coach the North Squad. The game will be played at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 28 in Manheim. Proceeds benefit the Scholarship Endowment Trust Fund. Tickets: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students. For more info call Marc Phillips at 665-3940 or Don Harris at 664-5474. A printable dinner reservation form is available at [manheimtouchdownclub.com](http://manheimtouchdownclub.com).

Pequea Valley Midget Football will hold registration from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 21 and from 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, June 1 at the Pequea Valley Intermediate School Cafeteria. Midget Football is open to youth ages 8-14 (as of Sept. 1, 2005) and cheerleading open to grades 2-8. Football players that did not play last year need to bring a copy of their birth certificate. For further info contact Mark Kichline at 442-1098 (football), Debbie Farrell at 442-3047 (cheerleading) or the web site <http://pvmfa.kichline.com>.

The New Oxford Colonial Lineman's Challenge will be Saturday, June 11 at New Oxford High School. The event drew over 300 football players from across the state in 2004, and promises to be bigger and better this year. \$12 per player or \$48 per four-man team. Must have P.I.A.A. eligibility left for 2005 season. For more info call Matt Muller 624-2157 or visit [www.oxfootball.com](http://www.oxfootball.com).

Warwick Midget Football will hold registration from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 19 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on W. Orange Street. Midget football and cheerleading are open to youth ages 8-14 (as of 9-1-05) and football players that did not play last year need to bring a copy of their birth certificate. Cost is \$50 with fundraiser participation; \$75 without fundraiser participation. There are sibling discounts. For more info, go to [www.eteamz.com/WMF](http://www.eteamz.com/WMF).

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering a spring coed football tournament from 2-10 p.m. Saturday, May 21. Cost: \$375, three games guaranteed. Must have two females per team and all players must be high school freshmen or older. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

The third annual Ultimate Option Football Clinic will be held Friday and Saturday, May 13 and 14, at Central Dauphin East High School in Harrisburg. Among the instructors are Chris Culton from the U.S. Naval Academy and Mike Williams of Manheim Central. For more info call Gerry Yonchiuk at 541-1662, ext. 255.

Willow Street Midget Football registration will be held from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, and 9-12 a.m. Saturday, May 21. At the Hans Herr Elementary school. Youth ages 8-14 are eligible. New players need a copy of birth certificate. For more info call Joe Vernalli at 872-7377 or e-mail [vernalli4aol.com](mailto:vernalli4aol.com).

The Donegal Braves Midget Football Team, Inc. will hold a meeting at 7 p.m. May 17 at the Marietta War Memorial Park.

The Manheim Township Youth Football Association will hold registration for football and cheerleading from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 21 at the MT Middle School cafeteria. Football players and cheerleaders must be ages 8 (as of 9-1-05) to 14 and new football players must bring a copy of their birth certificate. Cost is \$75. Contact Lew Chillot 560-3536 with questions.

The Kevin Kiesel Football Camp, for ages 7-17, will be held June 12-16 or June 19-23 at Lancaster Bible College. Day camp and overnight camp available. For more info, call 581-7801, ext. 3 or e-mail to [kieselsinpaaol.com](mailto:kieselsinpaaol.com).

## Golf

The Golf Channel's Mutual of Omaha Drive, Chip and Putt Challenge local competition will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 4 at Dauphin Highlands Golf Course near Harrisburg. Registration begins at 10 a.m. Four age groups: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12 and 13-14. Eighteen prizes will be awarded in each age group. First-place finishers will advance to national championships in October. Highlights of regional competitions will be featured on a Golf Channel special. Enter online

at [www.TheGolfChannel.com](http://www.TheGolfChannel.com) or call Dauphin Highlands at 986-1984.

The American Cancer Society Corporate Challenge Cup Golf Tournament will be played June 3 at Heritage Hills Golf Resort in York. Cost: \$100. Winning foursomes move on to state championship. Proceeds benefit cancer programs and research. For more info call 848-1841 or e-mail to [hshonkcancer.org](mailto:hshonkcancer.org).

A new golf league for women is forming this month. It's a 9-hole twilight league, every Wednesday, beginning June 1, at Lancaster Host Resort, sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania chapter of EWGA, a national organization. \$100 dues allow women to play worldwide. Contact Kae Groshong at 951-6049 to join the Lancaster league. Or e-mail to Robin Stauffer at [rstaufferhigh.net](mailto:rstaufferhigh.net) for more information.

Applications for Lancaster County Golf Association tournaments for the 2005 season are now available at all Lancaster County golf pro shops and at [www.lancogolf.com](http://www.lancogolf.com).

Zion's Angels, an American Cancer Society Relay for Life team comprised of members of Zion Lutheran Church in East Petersburg, is hosting its second annual Golf Outing to benefit Relay for Life. The tournament will take place Sunday, May 22 beginning at 1 p.m. at Four Seasons Golf Course, 949 Church Street, Landisville. Cost is \$65 per golfer, which includes dinner. The format of the tournament is four-person scramble, and prizes will be awarded for low gross, closest to the pin and longest/straightest drive. The registration deadline is May 15, and registration is limited to 132 golfers. Individuals who are interested in registering may contact Terry Wilhelm at 569-8112.

Ephrata Area Little League is hosting a golf tournament Saturday, June 11, at Foxchase Golf Club in Stevens. Entry fee of \$75 per golfer includes 18 holes of golf, cart, luncheon, range balls, and door prizes. Prizes for longest drive, closest to the pin, team awards, and more. \$50K shootout at the 18th hole and a 39 month lease on a new car for a hole-in-one. Scramble with shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. Sponsorship opportunities available. Call Jean at 738-0208 to register.

The third annual New Hope Golf Tournament will be held at 12:30 p.m. Monday, May 23 at Tanglewood Manor Golf Club. Cost, from \$60-\$75, equals sum of ages of four players in a foursome by age bracket. Price includes cart, dinner, prizes, awards and skills contests. Make checks payable to New Hope Community Life Ministry. For more info call 786-2802.

Girls' Nights Out of golf instruction will be offered by Meadia Heights assistant pro Rich Carr from 5:30-7 p.m. May 10, 17 and 24. There will be a chance to play a few holes June 7. Open to women only, ideally for beginners or fairly new players. For more info call Rich at 392-6030 or e-mail to [Richcarr1comcast.net](mailto:Richcarr1comcast.net).

The 21st annual Ephrata Rec Center Golf Tournament will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 22 at Fairview Golf Course in Quentin. Fee: \$70, including cart, steak dinner, starter pack, prizes, snacks and beverages. Scoring by Callaway system. Sponsorships available. For more info call Terry Hildebrand at 738-1167, ext. 103, or e-mail to [thilibrandephratarec.com](mailto:thilibrandephratarec.com).

Living Word Academy's 100-hole Golf Marathon will be held May 9 at Foxchase Golf Club. Golfers must commit to playing 100 holes and raising at least \$1,000 in pledges. Proceeds benefit the school's Assisted Learning Program. For more info call Diane Bissmore at 556-0711.

Living Word Academy's 10th annual Golf Tournament will be held May 18 and 19 at Foxchase Golf Club. The tournament is three rounds over two days. The first is a four-person scramble for sponsors, registration at noon, shotgun start at 1 p.m. Wednesday. The second round is a two-person morning scramble and the third a four-person afternoon scramble. Fee: \$75 for one round, \$135 for two and \$195 for all three, including a sleeve of balls, cart, tees, snacks, a buffet meal and prizes. For more info call Diane Bissmore at 556-0711.

The Ephrata High School boys' and girls' basketball programs are holding a fundraising golf tournament at 1 p.m. Monday, June 20 at Foxchase Golf Club. Registration at noon, dinners and awards at 6 p.m. Four-person scramble format. Fee: \$75, including cart, range balls, dinner and prizes. Must be at least 18 to play. For more info call 391-8137.

The eighth annual Birdie for Barons scramble will be held at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14 at Groff's Farm Golf Course in Mount Joy. Cost: \$60, including cart, lunch, contests and prizes. Event supports Manheim Central golf team. Please be at the course no later than 6:30 a.m. For more info call 653-9245.

Mt. Calvary Christian School will hold its 12th annual golf tournament at 7:30 a.m. Friday, June 17 at Par Line Golf Course in Elizabethtown. Registration begins at 6:30 a.m. Steak dinner and awards at 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$70, including

cart, gift, drinks, dinner, prizes and contests. For more info call 367-1649.

The 11th annual Disaster Relief Golf Tournament hosted by Mechanic Grove Church of the Brethren will be held Friday, Aug. 5 at Pilgrim's Oak Golf Course. Tee times are from 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Four-person scramble format. Cost: \$60, including cart, dinner and prizes, \$100 to sponsor a hole, or \$300 to sponsor a hole and four golfers. For more info call Betty Griffith at 464-9734 or Earle Hershey at 786-2440.

The inaugural Honey Brook High School Golf Outing will be held at noon Monday, May 16 at Honey Brook Golf Course. Anyone who attended or taught at HBHS is invited to participate. The cost is \$45, which includes golf cart and a box lunch. There is an additional charge for a catered dinner after golf. If interested, contact Rodney Kern at 273-3724 by May 7.

The Lancaster County Chapter of Penn State Alumni Association Golf Outing will be held at 12:45 p.m. Friday, May 13 at Four Seasons Golf Course. Cost: \$75, including golf, cart, beer, soda, hot dog lunch, a chicken-and-ribs dinner and many prizes. Dinner only: \$25. Sponsorships available from \$25-\$100. For more info call Glenn Bissinger at 285-8118 or e-mail to gbissingerfabral.com.

The Barons Football Booster Club Golf Tournament will be held at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, July 16 at Four Seasons Golf Course. Four-person scramble format. Registration is at 7 a.m., buffet lunch at 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$60, including cart, lunch and goodie bag. For more info call Bob Patterson at 273-4697 (days) or 665-5678 (evenings) or e-mail to mbpatterson18juno.com.

#### Ice hockey

The coaches of Penn State Berks Ice Hockey Team are holding tryouts for the Mid-Atlantic Selects peewee, bantam, and midget teams for a five-day tour of Montreal and Quebec in August at 7 p.m. Friday, May 13 for Peewee 93-94's/ Bantams 91-92's. Midgets 87-90's tryout will be at 8:15 p.m. and again on Sunday, May 15 at 12:30 p.m. for Peewee 93-94's/Bantams 91-92's and then Midgets 87-90's at 1:45 p.m. at the Bodyzone Sports and Fitness Complex in Wyomissing, PA. Cost for two-day tryout: \$30. You can register the days of the tryouts or contact Eric McCambly at 610-750-1049 or via e-mail at pennstateberkshockeyyahoo.com.

Cocalico Ice Hockey Club seeks a varsity head boys coach. If interested, call Joe Kealey at 336-2970 (evenings), 278-8099 (daytime).

#### Lacrosse

The Lancaster Summer Lacrosse League will be held at Lancaster Country Day School beginning the week of June 13-17 and ending the week of July 18-22. Middle School league (for players entering grades 7-9) will be held Mondays. Youth league (grades 4-6) will be held Tuesdays. For more info call Rob Umble at 394-1095.

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering an eight-week instructional lacrosse clinic for boys in grades 3-9 from 6-7 p.m. Sundays starting June 12. Cost: \$100. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering boys' summer lacrosse academies from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays starting the week of June 20. Cost: \$245. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

Beginning lacrosse camps for grades 1-4 and 5-8 will be offered the week of June 20 at Lancaster Country Day School. Only necessary equipment is a stick which may be brought or borrowed. For more info call Rob Umble at 394-1095.

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering a summer girls' lacrosse camp for grades 3-12 from 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Friday, July 25-29. Cost: \$170, including a t-shirt. Also, there will be girls' lacrosse pickups from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17 and running for six weeks.

#### Martial arts

An introduction to JKD knife fighting/defense will be offered from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 14 at the Lancaster Family Martial Arts Center in Landisville. Cost: \$30. Register by May 6 and receive a training knife. For more info call Ken Eberle at 653-8418 or LFMAC at 898-6120.

#### Playgrounds

Hempfield Area Recreation Commission is currently accepting registration for its Summer Playground Program. Summer Playground offers tournaments, special events and arts and crafts every day. The camp is held Monday–Thursday from 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon from June 13–Aug. 5 at Amos Herr Park, Centerville Elementary School, East Petersburg Community Park, Farmdale Elementary School, Mountville Community Park, Rohrerstown Elementary School, Silver Spring Park (9a.m.–noon ONLY). Fees: by June 6: \$70 R/\$170 NR for 8-week program, or \$55 R/\$90 NR for 8-week program at Silver Spring only (after June 6, add \$10). For more information call Christine at 898-3102, ext. 39, or e-mail her at [chartle hempfieldrec.com](mailto:chartle hempfieldrec.com).

#### Running

The Miles for Moms 5K run and 1K walk will be held at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 21 at Lancaster Catholic High School. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Fee: \$17 with a t-shirt, \$10 without for the 5K. For the walk, fees are \$13 with a t-shirt, \$6 without. Profits benefit Mom's House of Lancaster. For more info call Carol Arena at 396-9130 or e-mail to [mhlancjuno.com](mailto:mhlancjuno.com).

The 18th Annual Memorial 5K Run will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 28 at the Lebanon V.A. Medical Center. For more info call 228-6188, e-mail to [david.straszmed.va.gov](mailto:david.straszmed.va.gov) or go to [www.va5k.com](http://www.va5k.com).

The inaugural Paradise Park–Joe Heyer Memorial 5K Run and 2-mile Walk will be held at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 14 at Paradise Park in Paradise. For more info call Joe Watson at 610-205-5420 or go to [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

The Lancaster Road Runners Club invites runners of all ages and abilities to attend a weekly fun run held at different area locations at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evenings during the spring/summer months. This Tuesday we will meet at Kunkle Park in Mount Joy Boro. For directions and/or more information, visit the club website at [www.geocities.com/lrrclub/](http://www.geocities.com/lrrclub/), or contact the club at 964-1951, or [lrrclub@yahoo.com](mailto:lrrclub@yahoo.com). There will also be a Thursday evening trail run 6:30 at the Middle Creek Wildlife Preserve. Meet at the visitor's center parking lot. Visit the website for more information and/or directions.

The Lancaster Road Runners Club holds trail runs at 7:30 every Sunday morning at the Lancaster County Central Park. Runners meet at the swimming pool parking lot near the Chesapeake Street entrance. For more info, visit Web site at [www.geocities.com/lrrclub/](http://www.geocities.com/lrrclub/) or contact the club at 481-8694, or [lrrclub@yahoo.com](mailto:lrrclub@yahoo.com).

#### Senior games

The Lancaster Senior Games is celebrating its 17th year of competition. Come and be a part of a great tradition in Lancaster from June 6–10. Registration is open until May 13. Call 392-2115 or 299-7979 for a registration brochure, or check out [www.lancseniorgames.org](http://www.lancseniorgames.org).

#### Soccer

Star Soccer Academy, under the direction of Elizabethtown College coach Skip Roderick, will conduct day camps for boys and girls ages 6–15 of all skill levels, this summer on the following schedule: June 13–17, Kissel Hill Elementary School, Lititz; June 20–24, Elizabethtown College; July 5–8, Lancaster Airport fields; and July 18–22, Roland Park in Akron. Sessions run from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. Cost: \$135, including a ball, t-shirt and awards. Sibling discounts available. Elite Star Training is \$165. For more info call 560-9030 or visit [www.starsocceracademy.com](http://www.starsocceracademy.com).

The Elizabethtown Soccer School, run by Elizabethtown College coach Skip Roderick, will conduct a residential camp for boys age 13 and older July 10–14 at Elizabethtown College. Cost: \$425, with discounts for commuters and groups of six or more. Each camper will receive instruction, a soccer ball, t-shirt, a lanyard, and a chance to play in a camp all-stars vs. coaching staff game. For more info call 560-9030 or e-mail to [StarSocr83aol.com](mailto:StarSocr83aol.com).

Garden Spot Youth Soccer Club registration will be held from 10 a.m.–noon May 14 and 21, or from 6–8 p.m. May 18 at the high school cafeteria. Teams available: Intramural Saturday mornings (coed U6 teams, boys and girls U7/8 teams), recreational travel B team (boys U10–U12 and girls U10–U14), and Lanco travel A team (boys U10–U12, girls U10–U18). For more info call 355-0564.

Hempfield Soccer Club will hold tryouts for U13 girls and boys from 6–8 p.m. May 11 and 12 at East Petersburg Elementary School. Please arrive by 5:30 p.m. for registration. HSC offers conveniently located first class playing fields, and the willingness to create multiple teams and team levels at all ages including A, B and Premier. Affordable per player costs include tournament, referee and league fees and a professionally staffed team camp. Fulltime Director of Player and Coaching Development, Seamus Donnelly, highly trained coaches and a well organized club staff are equipped to meet



the needs of travel and premier players. HSC welcomes all players without any residency requirements. Tryout dates for other age groups are posted online at [www.hempfieldsoccerclub.org](http://www.hempfieldsoccerclub.org).

Manheim Twp Soccer Club fall registration is available for all intramural age groups and the U10 Advanced Intramural program (until June 15) online at [www.mtsoccer.com](http://www.mtsoccer.com). Walk-in registrations will be accepted from 6-8 p.m. May 9 at the Manheim Twp. Middle School. The U12 girls travel team is in need of players, no residency requirements. Call Matt at 581-0378 for info. Remaining travel tryouts: U14 boys/girls, May 16-17; U14 and U15 boys/girls and U16 girls, May 18-19; U16/19 boys, TBA. Tryouts are 5:30-8 p.m. at Foundation Fields. Registration info and forms can be found at [www.mtsoccer.com](http://www.mtsoccer.com).

Lanco Fieldhouse will be offering adult soccer leagues throughout the spring and summer, including coed leagues, open women's and men's, and over 30 women's and men's. Pickups for men and women begin in August. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

The Rheems Athletic Association will be holding soccer signups on the following dates: Saturday, May 14 (9 a.m.-noon). Monday through Wednesday, May 9-11 (6:30-8 p.m.) All signups will be held at the Rheems Elementary School. Travel team tryouts will be held on the following schedule: Boys U-10 to U-14 - Sunday, May 15 from 4-6 p.m., and Wednesday, May 18, from 6-8 p.m. Girls U-10 to U-18 - Mon May 16 from 6-8 p.m. and Friday, May 20 from 6-8 p.m. Tryouts to be held at the Rheems Elementary School Soccer Fields. Contact L. Florey, RAA Soccer Commissioner at 367-8116 for more information.

Lanco United Premier Boys' Soccer program is holding tryouts outside at Red Rose Indoor Arena on the following schedule: U14/U15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 10; U16/U17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 12. Fee: \$15. For more info call 285-7474.

Lanco Fieldhouse is offering a six-week women's soccer fit program Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. starting the week of June 8. Program develops skill and incorporates fitness. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

Lanco Fieldhouse and PA Soccer School are offering summer academies starting the week of June 6 on the following schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Mondays from 6-8 p.m.; goalie clinic Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m. for ages 8-12 and 7-8:30 p.m. for ages 13-17. All kids receive a ball, t-shirt, two City Islanders tickets and a certificate of completion. For more info call 560-0717 or go to [www.lancofieldhouse.com](http://www.lancofieldhouse.com).

Cocalico Field Hockey program is offering a youth camp for girls completing grades 3-7 the week of May 23-26 from 3:15-5:15 p.m. at the Cocalico Middle School gym. Cost is \$45. Equipment packages are available. To register or for more information please contact Krista Page at [krista\\_pagecocalico.k12.pa.us](mailto:krista_pagecocalico.k12.pa.us).

Pennsylvania Classics U-13 Boys team is looking for a goalkeeper for the upcoming season. The team will be playing Delco League U-13 in the fall. For additional information contact Mike Corney at 944-2797.

Red Rose Indoor Arena is taking registrations for the Angelo's Soccer Corner High School Outdoor League. Games will be played at 5, 6 or 7 p.m. Sundays and Wednesdays beginning July 10. Team fee: \$300, including 10 games plus playoffs. For more info call 285-7474 or go to [www.redrosearena.com](http://www.redrosearena.com).

Elco High School will host the Eastern Lebanon Soccer School this summer for 3 sessions on the following schedule: Session 1, June 20-24; Session 2, June 27-July 1; Session 3: Aug. 8-12. This camp is for boys and girls ages 5-14 and runs from 9am to 12 noon Monday through Friday each week. Brochures available in Angelo's Soccer Corner or Laucks' Sporting Goods in Myerstown or contact Mike Seigfried at 626-0519 ([mfsdejazzd.com](mailto:mfsdejazzd.com)) or Kirk Keppley at 866-6591([kkeppleyelco.k12.pa.us](mailto:kkeppleyelco.k12.pa.us)).

NSCAA State Diploma Course is being offered from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, June 18 at Elco High School in Myerstown. Greg Wilson from Philadelphia University will be the instructor. Fee is \$35. See [NSCAA.com](http://NSCAA.com) under coaching education for more information. More information on [NSCAA.com](http://NSCAA.com) or contact Mike Seigfried at 626-0519 or [mfsdejazzd.com](mailto:mfsdejazzd.com) or see [NSCAA.com](http://NSCAA.com).

ONE on ONE Soccer Goalkeeper School, a residential goalkeeper school for experienced players, will be held June 19-23 at Franklin & Marshall College. For more information visit our website at [www.ONEonONESoccer.com](http://www.ONEonONESoccer.com) or call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [infoONEonONESoccer.com](mailto:infoONEonONESoccer.com)

ONE on ONE Soccer Team Training School, a residential team training/individual player training schools for experienced players, will be held June 19-23 at Franklin & Marshall College. For more information visit our website at

[www.ONEonONESoccer.com](http://www.ONEonONESoccer.com) or call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [infoONEonONESoccer.com](mailto:infoONEonONESoccer.com).

ONE on ONE Soccer Field Player/Goalkeeper Day Camps will be held July 25-29 at Foundation Fields in Lancaster. For ages 5-15 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. full day or 9-11 a.m. half-day. Also for ages 9-15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 15-19 at East Petersburg Elementary School. For more information visit our website at [www.ONEonONESoccer.com](http://www.ONEonONESoccer.com) or call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [infoONEonONESoccer.com](mailto:infoONEonONESoccer.com).

ONE on ONE Soccer Team Day Camps will be held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. July 25-29 in Lititz. Teams ages U11-18 are welcome. Tuition: \$125. Also from 5-8 p.m. Aug 22-26 in Ephrata for teams ages U10-18. Tuition: \$125. For more information visit our website at [www.ONEonONESoccer.com](http://www.ONEonONESoccer.com) or call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [infoONEonONESoccer.com](mailto:infoONEonONESoccer.com).

Lady Warrior Soccer Camp will be held July 18-22 at Warwick High School. For girls ages 5-14. Tuition: \$85. For more information call us at 898-3900. E-mail us for a free brochure at [ladywarriorcamp@aol.com](mailto:ladywarriorcamp@aol.com).

York United Soccer Club will be holding Premier Level Soccer tryouts for Boys and Girls Ages U11 to U19. Tryout Dates and Locations can be found at the following links: York United web site: [www.yorkunitedsoccerclub.com/tryouts.htm](http://www.yorkunitedsoccerclub.com/tryouts.htm). UK Soccer Web Site: [www.uksoccercamps.com/Mailers/yorkunitedsoccerclubtryouts.htm](http://www.uksoccercamps.com/Mailers/yorkunitedsoccerclubtryouts.htm).

York USA Soccer Club will be holding Premier Level Soccer tryouts for girls ages U 11 to U14 and boys ages U14. Tryout dates and locations can be found at [www.uksoccercamps.com/Mailers/YorkUSATryouts.htm](http://www.uksoccercamps.com/Mailers/YorkUSATryouts.htm)

Current Premier level U-12 HMMS Eagle FC girls soccer team looking to add goalkeeper and two field players to roster for 2005-06 season. Contact John Abe at [Chutdcomcast.net](mailto:Chutdcomcast.net) if interested or call 238-4621 for more information.

#### Softball

St. Joseph's University softball program will be conducting a fast pitch softball camp from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 27-30 at its home field in East Norriton. For more information, please call the softball office at 610-660-1734 or visit our web site at [www.sjuhawks.com](http://www.sjuhawks.com).

The Manheim Slow-Pitch Church Softball League will hold its annual tournament June 3-5. The tournament is open to church teams only, and cost is \$150. The format will include a three-to four-game guarantee depending on the amount of teams entered. A double-elimination playoff will conclude the tournament. For more information or to register, call Mike Givler at 560-0259.

The Lebanon County Slow-Pitch League will host an ASA Class C National Qualifier May 20-22 at Heisey Field, Rte. 72 north of Lebanon. Registration deadline: May 16. For more info call 272-0981.

The Lebanon County Slow-Pitch League will host an ASA Class D National Qualifier June 3-5 at Heisey Field, Rte. 72 north of Lebanon. Registration deadline: May 30. For more info call 272-0981.

GEARS is now accepting rosters for our Summer 2005 Women's Fastpitch Softball league. If you have a roster to submit or you are an individual not on a team who wishes to play, please contact the GEARS office at 367-0355.

Fastpitch pitching camps will be held at Kunkle Field in Mount Joy this summer on the following schedule: girls ages 7-10, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Aug. 1-5; girls ages 11-18, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 1-5. For more info call Kathy Staib at 361-1533 or e-mail to [staibketown.edu](mailto:staibketown.edu).

A total skills softball camp will be held at Kunkle Field in Mount Joy this summer on the following schedule: girls ages 5-8, 9-11 a.m. June 20-22; girls ages 9-13, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. June 27-30. For more info call Kathy Staib at 361-1533 or e-mail to [staibketown.edu](mailto:staibketown.edu).

Manheim Township Parks and Recreation is offering a daytime slow-pitch league for men and women. Games will be played Tuesday and/or Thursday mornings at 9 and 10 a.m. from June through August. For more info call Jennifer Lopett at 290-7180, ext. 104, or e-mail to [jlopett@manheimtownship.org](mailto:jlopett@manheimtownship.org).

The Paradise Lions Club's 14th annual Spring Softball Tournament, for class C and D slow-pitch teams, will be held May 20-22. For more info call Chester Stoltzfoos at 687-7041 or 278-7372.

The Manheim Township Parks and Rec Dept. is seeking players for its Men's Slow-Pitch Summer League at Stauffer Park. League runs from May-August. Teams play two games per week. Players will be asked to contribute to team league

## SUNDAY NEWS (LANCASTER, PA.) May 8, 2005, Sunday

fees. For more info call Jennifer Lopett at 290-7180, ext. 104.

A girls' fast-pitch softball qualifier for the Southeastern team for the Keystone State Games will be held May 13-15 in Harrisburg. For 12U and 14U. For more info call Dave Neill at 626-2506.

The North American Sports Federation state fast-pitch girls softball championships will be held May 28-30, 10, 12 and 16U in Harrisburg, 14 and 18U in Rheems. Cost: \$330 for five-game format, three bracket games and double elimination. Registered ASA teams are eligible. Non-ASA of Pa. teams must add \$10 for NASF registration. Winners receive entry into NASF World Series, July 27-31 in Dalton, Georgia. For more info call Dave Neill at 626-2506 or go to [www.harrisburgsoftball.com](http://www.harrisburgsoftball.com).

Zion Lutheran Church of Salunga coed church softball team is looking for players. You don't have to be a church member, but must be at least 16 years of age. Games mostly at 6 and 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more info call Jesse at 898-1978 or e-mail to [jplandiscomcast.net](mailto:jplandiscomcast.net).

The Columbia Boys' Athletic Association is hosting two girls' fastpitch softball tournaments, bracket types with two games guaranteed. The 10 and under date is May 20, 21, 22 and is open to all recreational teams, not travel or all-star teams. The 12 and under tournament will be a "A" and "B" bracket tournament held on June 3, 4, 5. This is also open to all recreational teams, not travel or all-star teams. When registering, state what ASA-approved league you are affiliated with. Registration forms may be found at [www.cbaoonline.net](http://www.cbaoonline.net). For more info call Mike Zercher at 684-2947.

#### Swimming

Woodridge Swim Club will be offering Stroke and Turn Clinics for their team members as well as other interested swimmers in preparation for the summer season. The Stroke and Turn Clinics will be offered from 7-8 p.m. as follows: 8 and unders: Monday evenings, May 9 and 16; 7, 9 and 10 years old: Tuesday Evenings, May 10 and 17; 11 years old through 15 years old: Thursday Evenings, May 12 and 19. The Clinics will be offered at the Lititz Community Center. The clinics are included within the registration fees for Woodridge Swim Team Members. A charge of \$40 will be charged to those interested parties not members of the Woodridge Swim Team. For more information or to register, please call either Dan at 625-3018 or Gordy at 626-4158 after working hours.

Golden Meadows Swim Team registration is being held daily from 5:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the pool office at 2301 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster. Open to all boys and girls ages 6 to 18. Membership to Golden Meadows not required. Fee is \$65 for Golden Meadows members, \$99.61 for non-members. For more info. call Stephanie Albert at 397-6204.

#### Tennis

The Lancaster Tennis Patrons, in conjunction with the Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation, will be sponsoring Adult Team Tennis on from 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 14-30, at the Lancaster County Central Park tennis facility on Golf Road. The advanced beginner to intermediate level player is invited to participate in this Round Robin Match Play format which will feature Men's, Women's, and Mixed Doubles. Cost is \$36. For more information, please call Jeff Kitsock at 519-0570.

#### Track and field

Black Knight Track and Field Camp will be held from 6-8 p.m. May 16 and 23 (please note the date change) at the Hempfield High School Stadium. Camp provides boys and girls ages 8-14 with an opportunity to explore the different events in track and field. Participants will learn proper running technique, relay racing, hurdling, starting techniques, long, triple, and high jumping, shot put, discus, softball throw, and gain conditioning as well. The fee is \$50 R/\$55 NR (includes camp t-shirt).

Hempfield Area Rec Commission and Hempfield High School are holding a qualifier for the Hershey Track and Field meet from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, May 24 (please note the date change) at the Hempfield High stadium. Please check in 20 minutes prior to event. Boys and girls ages 9-14 (born between 1991 and 1994) can choose to compete in up to three track and field events. First place winners will advance to the Hershey District Meet on Saturday, June 11. Pre-registration is recommended. Forms are available at the HSC front desk. All participants must have a copy of their birth certificate attached to the registration form in order to participate. Copies will not be made at the event.

#### Triathlon

The YWCA of York is hosting its first All Ladies Sprint Triathlon on Sunday, June 26 at Dallastown High School. The triathlon starts at 8 a.m. and consists of a 300-yard pool swim, 15-mile bike ride, and 5k run. Women and girls aged 14 and over can participate individually or as a member of a team. Participants can register on-line at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or pick up forms at the YWCA at 320 East Market Street, York. Early bird registration ends May 26. For more information, contact Tara Neff, YWCA Fitness Director. at 845-2631.

The Lancaster Family YMCA Triathlon team is forming to begin training for the this year's Triathlon, which will be held Sept. 10 at Speedwell Forge. For more info call Thomas Baughman at 397-7474, ext. 134.

#### Volleyball

GEARS is organizing its summer sand volleyball leagues to begin in June. Games will be played outside at the Stone Gable's Estate on 1000 N. Market Street, Elizabethtown. Rain location is the Elizabethtown Area Middle School Gym. Leagues available are Coed, Mens' and women's Women's Quads and Doubles. Doubles will play on Mondays and Quads will play on Wednesdays. Costs are \$85 for Quads and \$60 for Doubles plus \$6 for Nonresidents. Registration deadline is Thursday, May 26. For more information contact the GEARS office at 367-0355.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Women's 6 on 6 Volleyball. The league runs from May 31 through Aug. 30 and is played on Tuesday nights. Cost: \$200 per team plus \$8 per game official's fees. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday May 25th at 6 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Men's 6 on 6 Volleyball. The league runs from June 2 through Sept. 1 and is played on Thursday nights. Cost: \$200 per team plus \$8 per game officials' fee. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday May 25 at 7 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Men's Grass Doubles Volleyball. The league runs from June 6 through Aug. 15 and is played on Monday nights. Cost: \$75 per team plus \$8 per game official's fee. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Co-Ed Doubles Beach Volleyball. The league runs from June 8 through Aug. 24 and is played on Wednesday nights. Cost: \$75 per team. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

The Lititz Community Center is taking team registration for Women's Beach Doubles Volleyball. The league runs from June 2 through Aug. 18 and is played on Thursday nights. Cost: \$75 per team. To register a team, contact Justin Wartella at 626-5096 or [JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org](http://JW236lititzcommunitycenter.org). Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. A captains meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26 at 6 p.m. at the Lititz Community Center.

#### Walking

The Penn Dutch Pacers will host a walk on Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22 on the Lancaster Junction Recreation Trail. Start anytime between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.; finish by 4 p.m. The start point will be at the Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center at 101 Champ Blvd., located off Route 283 westbound at the Salunga exit. Turn right onto Spooky Nook Road for approximately one-tenth mile and take another right onto Champ Road. Follow this road for one half mile and you will see the New Lancaster County Public Safety Training Center. The trail head and starting point are at this location. Brecht Elementary School fifth-grade students will be walking with us Saturday morning. At around 9:30 a.m., Saturday, the Barnstormers mascot Cylo will arrive and walk part of the trail with the students. The Lancaster Junction Trail runs for 2.3 miles through scenic farmland and borders Chickies Creek in its northern half. Our 10K walk will take you out onto country roads for your return trip. This trail has well-graded and level surfaces making it ideal for walking. There will also be a shorter trail available. Every participant must register and carry a Start Card. Participation only, without IVV credit, is \$2; children 12 or under may participate free. Water and hard candy will be available at checkpoints. Food is available at the start. For further information call: Barry Weatherholtz, 625-3533 or Phil Allamong, 786-7118 or Marsha Bowen, 560-3111. Visit our page on the website at [www.ava.org/clubs/pdp/index.html](http://www.ava.org/clubs/pdp/index.html).

The inaugural Walk of Love, a fundraiser for the Brittany's Hope Foundation, will be held May 22 at Elizabethtown

High School. Participants will obtain pledges and walk or run for one hour. proceeds go to grants for children. Prizes include a \$250 Park City gift certificate. For more info call 367-9614 or go to [www.brittanyshope.org](http://www.brittanyshope.org).

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

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Copyright 2005 American Broadcasting Companies, Inc.  
ABC News Transcripts

SHOW: GOOD MORNING AMERICA (08:00 AM ET) - ABC

May 8, 2005 Sunday

LENGTH: 467 words

HEADLINE: GOOD MORNING AMERICA INTRODUCTION

BODY:

graphics: good morning america

graphics: diplomatic divide

BILL WEIR, ABC NEWS

This morning, diplomatic divide. President Bush's trip to mark the end of World War II triggers a rift with Russia.

graphics: fatal dog mauling

BILL WEIR

Also, fatal dog mauling. Family pets attack and kill a toddler. What brings out the worst in man's best friend? We'll tell you how to protect your children.

graphics: singer's surprise

BILL WEIR

And the Canadian singer who forgot the words to the National Anthem gets an unforgettable surprise, a real dream come true from superstar Celine Dion.

ANNOUNCER

From ABC News, this is "Good Morning America." Now, from Times Square in New York, weekend anchors Bill Weir and Kate Snow.

BILL WEIR

Good morning, Mom. I love ya. Thanks for having me.

KATE SNOW, ABC NEWS

That's nice. I like that. Happy Mother's Day to all you moms out there. It is Sunday, May 8th. It's Mother's Day.

BILL WEIR

That's right.

KATE SNOW

Don't go get another cup of coffee. Go have somebody get it for you.

BILL WEIR

That's, yes. Relax.

KATE SNOW

Stay in bed. Relax. Watch the show, have somebody get you a cup of coffee.

N/R 305

PC-00901

BILL WEIR

And, and enjoy the dulcet tones of Celine Dion this morning. This is a ...

KATE SNOW

Yeah.

BILL WEIR

... exciting meeting between our favorite anthem singer.

KATE SNOW

Yeah, Caroline Marcil (PH), you remember a couple weeks ago, she unfortunately had this unfortunate incident on the ice up in Canada. She, she botched the national anthem. We brought her here to "Good Morning America" and we had her sort of redeem herself.

BILL WEIR

Right.

KATE SNOW

She sang the anthem perfectly. And then we thought it would be really nice to, to maybe give her a meeting of a lifetime.

BILL WEIR

Right. She loves Celine Dion.

KATE SNOW

She loves Celine Dion.

BILL WEIR

She's a, she's a French Canadian. And so they got together in Vegas and we'll show you that meeting coming up. Also coming up, a special tribute to all those military moms on the battlefield this Mother's Day. Though they are far from home, you can imagine their families are always close to their hearts, especially on days like this.

BILL WEIR

And a little bit later, late night laughter. Now this is interesting. Paula Abdul poked fun at her "American Idol" controversy on "Saturday Night Live" last night. We'll show you part of that performance.

BILL WEIR

And if you ever looked at this motley crew and wondered, where do these people come from?

KATE SNOW

Speak for yourself.

BILL WEIR

Well, this month we're showing you, this, our "Weekend Windows" to our hometowns. And this morning we're going to a local's look at Aspen, Colorado. But before that, let's get to Ron Claiborne at the news desk. Good morning, Ron.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 10, 2005



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Copyright 2005 Akron Beacon Journal  
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Akron Beacon Journal (Ohio)

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**LENGTH:** 204 words

**HEADLINE:** Charlotte A. Mancino

**BODY:**

Charlotte A. Mancino, 83, of Las Vegas, Nev., formerly of Lakemore, passed away May 1, 2005, at Desert Springs Hospital in Las Vegas.

She was born Feb. 15, 1922, in Jane Lew, W. Va., to the late Hal and Lelia (Smith) Gainer. Charlotte was a beautician for 25 years and then was a realtor. She enjoyed retirement with her husband of 58 years, Bennie. She moved to Las Vegas in her later years and enjoyed making new friends and enjoyed the Vegas atmosphere, especially BINGO.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Bennie Mancino, in 2000; son, John R. Mancino, in 2001; sister, Nell Wiles; brothers, Bill and Kenneth Gainer. She is survived by her daughter, Vicki L. Mancino of Las Vegas, Nev.; son and daughter-in-law, Bennie R. and Renee Mancino of Logandale, Nev.; grandchildren, Chris and Kerry Mancino; five great-grandchildren.

Calling hours will be Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Newcomer Funeral Home, 131 N. Canton Rd., where funeral services will be conducted Tuesday at 11 a.m., with Rev. Bill Davis officiating. Interment will follow at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery. (Newcomer Funeral Home, 330-784-3334.)

Please sign the guestbook at

[www.ohio.com/obituaries](http://www.ohio.com/obituaries)

**LOAD-DATE:** May 8, 2005

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PC-00903

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Copyright 2005 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

May 8, 2005 Sunday Home Edition

**SECTION:** Sports; Pg. 14D;**LENGTH:** 830 words**HEADLINE:** AUTO RACING: Mom knows best;  
NASCAR drivers often get the help they need at home**BYLINE:** RICK MINTER**BODY:**

Darlington, S.C. — You wouldn't dare call someone who drives a race car 200 mph a "mama's boy," but in many respects the term fits a lot of those who do.

As Nextel Cup drivers prepared for a rare Mother's Day weekend race, many of them paused to give their mamas credit for their competitive spirit and to thank them for the sacrifices they made to get their sons to NASCAR's elite circuit.

Stanton Barrett, like many of his peers, followed his father into the sport. But he said most of his will to win and desire to compete at the highest level comes from his mother, world-class skier Penny McCoy.

McCoy was on the U.S. national alpine team from 1965-69. She was on the World Championships team in 1966 that went to Portillo, Chile, where she became the sport's youngest medal winner, taking the bronze in slalom at age 15.

She continued to ski competitively for years, winning several Masters events. She also runs marathons, enters Ironman events and rides cross-country mountain bikes at age 54.

She helps manage Mammoth Mountain, her family's huge ski resort in California's Sierra Nevada mountains.

"She's an amazing woman . . . just a phenomenal athlete," said Barrett, who drives the No. 36 Chevrolet in the Busch Series and the No. 92 in Cup. "Just to see somebody like my mom at her age still riding motocross bikes with us and mountain biking and running and keeping at a pace that is respectable for anybody is amazing."

**Chasing athletic legacy**

Barrett has yet to achieve the success in his sport that his mother did in hers. His best Busch finish was a fifth at Atlanta Motor Speedway in 1994, and his best Cup run was a 30th at Phoenix last week. But there's not a hint of envy on his part.

"We both competed at the highest levels of what we do, and that is very rewarding," he said. "She's had a lot more success in her career. She was the best woman skier in the world, pretty much. She trains hard, and she's passionate about what she does. She's very, very competitive. That's inspiring."

But in many ways, McCoy is a typical racing mom. She worries about Stanton and his brother, David, whether they're racing cars, skiing or riding motorcycles.

"She likes racing, but she hates seeing me out there," Barrett said. "When there's a wreck she freaks out. I think I get more phone calls than anybody in the garage, just from my mom. At the end of the race, I'll have 12 messages, and they're all from her."

Throughout the garage, there are stories of mothers who stayed out of the limelight but worked hard to get their sons' careers in high gear.

Tony Stewart said his mom, Pam Boas, deserves a medal of her own — just for putting up with him.

"Anyone who could actually raise me and not want to kill me or kick me out of the house has got to be a very patient

person," Stewart said, adding that his mother always has been one of his biggest supporters.

Jeff Gordon said his mother, Carol Bickford, was instrumental in getting him in his first quarter-midget race car — she thought it was safer than the BMX bikes he'd been riding — and has backed him since.

"She's probably more of a mother today than she ever has been," Gordon said. "As I get older, I continue to recognize the importance of how I was brought up and who really means the most to me in my life.

"She's an amazing person, and I see our relationship grow all the time where I can go to her and talk to her about things that you didn't even think of as a kid. As you get older, you realize that your parents are a lot smarter than you thought they were."

Defending Nextel Cup champion Kurt Busch said he and his brother Kyle, a rookie on the circuit this year, owe a tremendous debt to their mother, Gaye Busch, who has played a big role in their careers.

"Back in Vegas, she even went back to work so that she could help us pay our tire bills to race," Kurt Busch said. "Her dedication speaks for itself."

Thanks, Mrs. Earnhardt

Ida Compton, whose son Stacy has raced in the Busch and Cup series, is known throughout the garage for being a caring mom away from home for drivers and crew members.

"I pray every day for all the teams — not just Stacy's — to have a safe weekend," Mrs. Compton said.

Perhaps the greatest contribution by a NASCAR mother came in the winter of 1973, when a recently widowed woman sold off some of her late husband's assets and spent the money on a top-notch pavement race car for her son, then an aspiring but struggling dirt-track driver.

The woman's name: Martha Earnhardt. Her son: Dale Earnhardt. The car: a 22-time winner driven the year before by Harry Gant.

Veteran motorsports writer Bob Moore said no race fan should ever underestimate Mrs. Earnhardt's role in her son's career, which saw him run his first Cup race two years after he began racing Gant's old car.

"If it wasn't for Martha," Moore said, "Dale's career could have come to a screeching halt before it ever got started."

**GRAPHIC:** Courtesy of STANTON BARRETT Stanton Barrett gets his competitiveness from his mother, Penny McCoy, who was a world-class alpine skier.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 19, 2005

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Biloxi Sun Herald

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION:** G; Pg. 8

**LENGTH:** 672 words

**HEADLINE:** Irish star's ashining;  
**REVIEW**

**BYLINE:** By MARK WASHBURN

**BODY:**

The U.S. population is at 295 million, Elvis imposters are common as cabs in places like Vegas, and we have to reach out to Ireland to get a guy to play the King of Rock 'n' Roll?

Tonight, CBS will subject more Americans to the concept of foreign outsourcing than all the computer help lines in India by unleashing Jonathan Rhys Meyers in the role of Elvis Presley.

But just as the auto industry has gone to the Japanese and China is snapping up Treasury bonds like egg rolls, we owe a foreign debt to Meyers and his magic.

If he wants to be nothin' but a hound dog, I say let him. He's got the courage of Sinbad to even accept a role where he must strut the thin line between cultural accuracy and cartoonish imitation.

"If you're going to play Elvis Presley, you have to be aware that there are going to be some people who are really picky about it," Meyers says in a phone interview. That's the understatement of the decade. "I played Elvis Presley; I am not Elvis Presley."

Could have fooled me. Meyers nails it, nails it to the note, and in the process elevates an over-"Mama"-ed and occasionally sappy script into a grab-you-by-the-sequins performance that sparkles even to the roll-your-eyes-at-the-mention-of-Elvis support group. I should know. I never miss a meeting.

Meyers succeeds by playing a giant character small. He undersneers, his pompadour misbehaves and when he hits the stage, he acts like a kid caught square in the beam of a diesel engine.

His Elvis is all humble roots and pie-in-sky, a kid stumbling into the big time one accidental step after another.

Camryn Manheim of "The Practice" plays Elvis' doting mother, who thrills to his success while fearing the corrupting atmosphere of show biz. It's a known fact Elvis loved his mama and his mama loved him back, but in case you didn't know it, the early going of "Elvis" establishes the fact in concrete.

Randy Quaid pulls off a convincing villain in the role of Colonel Tom Parker, the promoter who didn't much care for Elvis' singing but knew a good - a very good - thing when he heard it.

Parker comes off in the film as a diabolical fiend, and it's a charitable act on the part of screenwriters. Those who know the Elvis story will appreciate Quaid's understated treachery, because the manipulations of the man would seem implausible if played to their historical record.

This movie explores young Elvis, the energetic, pre-narcotic, ante-belly Southern entertainer destined for luminous fame and a dark descent.

This is the Elvis whose combination of black blues and white country petrified parents in the '50s, the Elvis whose music inspired a million teens to pick up guitars and form rock 'n' roll bands. The Elvis whose moves presaged the sexual

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revolution of the '60s and '70s.

Meyers' believability is enhanced because many people don't know the Elvis backstory. The movie ends with Elvis' 1968 comeback and dabbles little in the bloated Vegas version so memorable to people of impressionable age in the 1970s.

Meyers coached himself in Elvis' style by watching Elvis movies and talking to those who knew the King. The movie was filmed largely in New Orleans, and during production, Meyers would ditch his native brogue and talk in Elvisspeak all day, even to the breakfast waitress.

He visited Graceland and lingered alone for a half hour at Elvis' grave, brooding on what made the man with the flicking hips so special.

"There was an energy he gave off," says Meyers. "His energy was so raw, that was what made him."

John Lennon once said that before Elvis, there was nothing. In universal terms, Elvis is still seen by many as the Big Bang of 20th century American music, a hard act to follow. Meyers "Elvis" pulls it off, in full measure.

**Three nights of Elvis**

**The movie:** 8 p.m. today, CBS; Part II, 7 p.m. Wednesday

**The home movies:** "Elvis by the Presleys," 7 p.m. Friday, CBS; features vintage family footage, never-before-seen performances, and interviews with Priscilla and Lisa Marie Presley.

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Biloxi Sun Herald

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION:** G; Pg. 9

**LENGTH:** 694 words

**HEADLINE:** Take the graceful way out;  
Calling off the wedding with finesse requires communication

**BYLINE:** By MONICA L. HAYNES; PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

**BODY:**

Thanks to a certain bride-not-to-be in Georgia, we all now know how not to call off a wedding.

Instead of getting married last weekend, runaway bride Jennifer Wilbanks was hiding her face from photographers after concocting a story about being kidnapped to avoid her lavish 600-guest wedding.

But how do a bride and groom properly cancel that walk down the aisle when they've gone from having cold feet to becoming a human Popsicle?

"We've definitely heard a lot about canceled weddings, but we've never heard anything like this, where a bride just disappeared," said Emily Upham Howell, spokeswoman for The Emily Post Institute.

If one does decide to formally call off the nuptials rather than hop a bus to Vegas, communication is important, she said.

Once a bride begins to have serious doubts, she needs to talk to her fiancé. If it's the groom who's feeling shaky, the same applies.

If they decide to cancel or postpone the event, Howell said, the hosts, usually the parents of the bride and groom, are told. The hosts then begin the difficult task of informing guests.

"If there's enough time you can send out a printed announcement," she said.

If not, the bride and groom can solicit the help of bridal party members to call wedding guests to let them know the wedding has been canceled or postponed. Gifts should be returned with a note explaining the situation.

"Clearly this is going to be painful and upsetting for many people besides the bride and groom," Howell said. "Emotions will be running high."

Pittsburgh wedding consultant Deb Waterkotte has helped make the phone calls when a wedding has been nixed.

"I've probably done that 10 times in the last 16 years," she said. "That is a real feeling, the cold feet and the fearfulness."

Wedding planning is very stressful and can lead to huge disagreements and very anxious moments for couples.

Waterkotte recommends couples seek counseling when doubts arise to help determine if it's a case of pre-wedding jitters or something more serious. Once a couple has decided to call things off, it's almost impossible to recoup any of the money expended.

"It's really up to the servicer and what's on the contract," Waterkotte said.

For the most part, however, deposits are lost. When a wedding is only a week away, the hall has been paid for, florists have incurred costs of ordering flowers, caterers have ordered the food, and bands and photographers cannot book another engagement on such short notice.

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"It's almost better to go ahead and throw the party," she said.

Rachel Safier wrote the book on canceling a wedding - literally.

After expressing serious doubts two months before her nuptials, her fiance decided two weeks beforehand that Safier's heart just wasn't in it and called it off. Safier co-wrote a book two years ago about the experience called "There Goes the Bride: Making Up Your Mind, Calling It Off and Moving On."

Safier also has a Web site where "almost brides" can chat about their experiences and find useful information about when and how to cancel a wedding.

In light of Wilbanks' story, Safier said she's been getting a lot of e-mail from women who have thought about running away from it all before they decided to take a more rational approach.

"If you feel like you do need to make yourself scarce, you have to write a Dear John letter at the very least," Safier said. "There's no great way to break somebody's heart, but it's a lot better than thinking somebody's been kidnapped or killed."

That said, Safier certainly can sympathize with Wilbanks.

"I found it paralyzing when I didn't want to get married," she said. "It just felt wrong. I couldn't understand why I was having cold feet."

Safier said she was recently asked by a British journalist if she felt Wilbanks' actions will prompt more women to head for the hills instead of the wedding chapel. She said she doesn't think so because getting cold feet is pretty common.

What it probably will do, she said, is motivate more couples to have the kind of discussions they should have had in the first place.

"Anytime that there's communication, " she said, "it's only for the better."

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May 8, 2005 Sunday  
ALL EDITIONS

**SECTION:** NEWS; Pg. 018

**LENGTH:** 864 words

**HEADLINE:** INSIDE TRACK;

Life after Affleck: Enza goes where Ben's never been - yet

**BYLINE:** By Gayle Fee and Laura Raposa

**BODY:**

Word on the wedding front is that Enza Sambataro, the former Channel 4 ad exec who dated Ben Affleck after he broke up with Jennifer Lopez, beat her ex-beau down the aisle.

Enza tied the knot with car czar Rob McGee Friday night in Newton with a reception at the Ritz-Carlton Boston. The two have been dating for several months and moved in together after Enza left her TV job.

The brunette beauty dated Affleck for several weeks last spring after they met at Nomar Garciaparra's annual Nomar Bowl. They took in a Red Sox game together, shacked up in Enza's Newton apartment and she even nursed him back to health after a nasty bronchitis attack.

But, alas, the romance faded after pals of Enza sent around e-mails chronicling their courtship in excruciating detail and Ben sought solace in the arms of Jennifer Garner.

Now he and his latest Jen also reportedly are headed for the altar. But don't expect their nups to come off as smoothly as Enza's!

Star maggie reports that the nearlyweds already are arguing about the kind of wedding to have and the location of the festivities. Ben, says Star, is "bent on packing up, shipping out and saying his vows in secret." But Jen reportedly craves a big church affair with loads of family and friends. (Apparently she didn't have that with her first foray into wedded bliss with Scott Foley.)

But big weddings and Ben don't exactly go together like something old and something new. The last time Affleck was ready to do the "I Do" thing in a major Hollywood way, he and J. Lo called off their big show claiming that the media attention was killing the romance. Something was killing it, because they broke up a couple of months after the wedding washout.

Of course, whether or not Garner will actually manage to drag the Runaway Groom down the aisle is very much an open question. So do stay tuned.

Kid wisdom

And speaking of the holy state of matrimony, Entercom radio high priestess Julia Kahn and her longtime honey, Boston maggie publisher Dan Scully, are engaged - but it took a lot of finessing from Julie's 5-year-old daughter Samantha to get the couple to commit!

Kahn said that Samantha insisted that she and her mom "had to get Danny to marry us," but Julie kept telling her that it was up to him to ask. So one night when Scully was over for dinner, Sammy put on the hard sell.

"She said, 'Why don't you ask Mommy to marry you right now?'" Scully said. To which, he replied that "it had to be romantic."

So Sam, not one to be put off, went into the living room, dimmed the lights, lit some candles and dragged the couple in and said, "There, it's romantic. Ask her!"

Well, Scully figured it wasn't going to get any better than that, so he dropped to one knee and proposed. Julie said yes.

Because the engagement was somewhat impromptu, a ring is in the works. Probably should get a little something for Samantha, too. . . .

#### Tracked down

Sting, funny filmmaker Peter Farrelly and other friends of Boston money man Bob Sager partying post-concert at his Ladder District pad . . . New England Patriots Corey Dillon, Eugene Wilson and Tully Banta-Cain getting their groove on at the Snoop Dogg show at the DCU Center . . . Time maggie prez Eileen Naughton receiving a "Woman of Valor" award at the American Diabetes Association soiree at the Fairmont Copley Plaza . . . Irish author Malachy McCourt chowing at the Stanhope Grille at Jurys Boston Hotel . . .

#### Side Tracks

##### Mum's the Word:

- Need the perfect last-minute gift for mom? The Photographic Resource Center has set up six studios around town manned by professional shutterbugs ready to snap portraits of moms and kids. Groups of four can sit today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at locations including Filene's at the Mall at Chestnut Hill, the Boston Park Plaza and the PRC on Commonwealth Avenue. Check out [www.prcboston.org](http://www.prcboston.org) for more info.

- Joanne Grady, president of Abbott Personnel Services, invited a bunch of the gals to her Duxbury digs to collect, sort and pack more than 1,000 pieces of business attire, clothing and baby products headed for two area shelters. The donations, targeted for homeless women who are trying to get into the workforce, were shipped to the Temporary Home for Women and Children and Shelter, Inc. Holly Safford of The Catered Affair donated lunch for the volunteers.

- Car czar Ray Ciccolo galloped down to the Kentucky Derby this weekend as an honorary "Kentucky Colonel." Which apparently has nothing whatsoever to do with fried chicken. It was a designation given by Secretary of State Trey Grayston for Ray's role with the National Auto Dealers Association.

- Congrats to toqued titan Michael Gregory who has just been named executive chef of the newly renovated Ocean Edge Resort & Club in Brewster.

- And a round of applause, please, for Samuel Michael Martin, the No. 1 son of Salon Mario Russo colorist extraordinaire Michelle Martin and her hubby, Michael, a sports agent. Little Sam checked in at 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

- Finally, a round of Mother's Day wishes to the gals who made the Track what it is today - Olga, Camilla and Deborah. Our moms rock!

Erin Hayes contributed to today's column.

Drop dimes to [trackgals@bostonherald.com](mailto:trackgals@bostonherald.com) or 617-619-6488.

**GRAPHIC: LORDS OF THE BOARDS;** It was a Dog day afternoon in Taunton yesterday where Jeff Hill and dozens of other Z-Boys wannabes showed off their X-treme skateboarding style at "The Lords of Dogtown Skatepark Jam." Three top boarders from around the country will be chosen to compete live on MTV's "TRL" in Vegas. All of which is to promote the new flick "The Lords of Dogtown," about a group of teen surfers from Venice Beach, Calif., who pioneered a revolutionary style of skateboarding in the '70s. It premieres June 3. Staff photo by Douglas McFadd

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May 8, 2005 Sunday  
THIRD EDITION

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. B05

**LENGTH:** 512 words

**HEADLINE:** BASKETBALL;  
NBA PLAYOFFS;  
Fits like a Glove;  
But Payton could leave

**BYLINE:** By Steve Conroy

**BODY:**

If Gary Payton could write the script for his final game as a Celtic, chances are it wouldn't read anything like last night's brutal 97-70 loss to the Indiana Pacers at the FleetCenter in Game 7 of their first-round playoff series.

But with the 36-year-old point guard becoming a free agent this offseason, there's really no telling whether the future Hall of Famer will want to return or not, or if Celtics director of basketball operations Danny Ainge would even want to bring him back with Marcus Banks apparently on the cusp of stepping to the forefront.

Payton did leave the door open for a return.

"I'm always interested in everything," said the Glove, who finished with seven points and seven assists in the season-ending loss. "This is a great fit playing for Doc (Rivers), and with him coaching these guys and letting them understand where our future is. If I can keep it that type of situation, then it would be ideal for me."

In the end, he was non-committal.

"I don't know what I'm going to do right now," Payton said. "I'm going to go out to Vegas and Marcus is going to come out to Vegas and we'll try to work with all the younger guys and, you know, we'll talk. We'll talk about things."

"We've got a lot of good young players here and we're going to try and get them better. They're going to be a team to be reckoned with in the years to come."

In the past, Payton has wanted to be in a place where he can start. His agent, Aaron Goodwin, said that that doesn't necessarily matter to Payton now.

"I don't think it's an issue with Gary at this point," Goodwin said. "I just think he wants to be in a situation where he can be competitive and win. There are some teams that Gary can go to and start. I think it's really going to come down to what he decides he wants to do after he's thought about it for a while."

Payton said the Celtics learned some lessons the hard way.

"We went on their floor and beat them and they came on our floor and beat us three times. And that's a learning experience," Payton said. "You earn homecourt advantage and you have to keep it. We didn't do it, they didn't do it and unfortunately they won more games on our homecourt than we did on theirs and we got eliminated."

"These guys will learn from it . . . we've got to execute and we've got to bond together. And I don't think we did a good job of bonding together."

If the decision is left up to the youngsters, Payton will be back.

"He meant a lot for my development from Day One," Delonte West said. "He's been schooling me, schooling Marcus."

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But he never tried to overdo it. He didn't try to show us everything HE knows. He let us learn on our own. But if he felt there was something that needed to be said, he'd throw his two cents in."

Said Banks: "Gary meant a lot to me. He helped me through a lot of mental situations as well as on-the-court situations. I've seen a lot of Gary and watched him through his whole career. He's a great point guard and I look up to him. If he's willing to teach me more, I'm here to learn."

Steve Bulpett contributed to this report.

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Copyright 2005 Chicago Tribune Company  
Chicago Tribune

May 8, 2005 Sunday  
Chicago Final Edition

**SECTION:** Q ; ZONE C; QURIOUS CONSUMER. ; Pg. 7

**LENGTH:** 252 words

**HEADLINE:** Attention, shoppers: Vegas has gone vogue

**BYLINE:** Wendy Donahue.

**BODY:**

The commercials show Steve Wynn standing triumphantly atop his new \$2.7 billion Las Vegas hotel. But it's not just hotel rooms and slot machines propping him up.

It's Dior, Cartier, Brioni, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Oscar de la Renta and Jean Paul Gaultier. They're among the tenants in 75,000 square feet of retail space in his resort—the latest example of a Vegas gone vogue.

Gambling now takes third place behind entertainment and shopping as the reason people go to the city, which is now second only to New York as a high-end shopping destination in the U.S.

That's why Town & Country—an old-guard arbiter of taste—has launched "Luxury Las Vegas," a mini-magazine and shopping guide. Bagged with copies of Town & Country and Town & Country Travel and distributed at luxury hotels in Vegas, it details the best high-end shopping destinations on the Strip and beyond.

And there are a lot of them.

Last fall, The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace expanded, now including stores such as Harry Winston, Juicy Couture, Carolina Herrera, Scoop NY, Pucci and Kate Spade.

Luxury retailer Fred Leighton Jewelers chose to open an out-post in Vegas rather than the more obvious Beverly Hills.

And de la Renta and Manolo Blahnik, who didn't return Wynn's calls when first approached, saw fit to make personal appearances in their new stores at Wynn Las Vegas last weekend, according to Women's Wear Daily.

So the next logical question is: When can the rest of us? And, more important, does anyone want to donate winnings to the cause?

**NOTES:** QUALITIES OF LIFE. LUXE LIFE.

**GRAPHIC:** PHOTOS (color): Town & Country has deemed Las Vegas worthy of its own mini-magazine.

**PHOTO** (color): (Poker chips.)

**PHOTOS** 3

**LOAD-DATE:** May 8, 2005

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The Clarion-Ledger (Jackson, Mississippi)

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION:** PERSPECTIVE; Pg. 2G

**LENGTH:** 1623 words

**HEADLINE:** Sunday

**BYLINE:** Sid Salter

**BODY:**

MORNING

with

Edward St. Pe'

Brandon, 50, NWN Studios president, singer

"I look at the music as a separate discipline from business - one to work at to get better at and grow in. I wear my suit during the week and on the weekends when I sing, I just take my tie off."

Interview by

Sid Salter

Clarion-Ledger Perspective Editor

COMING NEXT SUNDAY

Dr. Henry L. Jones II

High-tech innovator,

Director of Research and Development,

Smart Synch

I first want to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all our moms. And to my own momma, let me say, I love you very much. Whatever I've worked on so far in life - any accomplishment that I may have had or that I will have - I owe to you, Ma.

NWN stands for National Weather Networks. We provide TV weathercasts for TV stations that don't do their own weathercasts. There are FOX, WB, UPN, PBS and independent stations across the country that just have not been in the news business, so they did not have weather departments. NWN, or "WeatherVision," as we are known around the country today, produces these stations' local TV weathercast with the on-air meteorologist and shoots it to them on satellite. The station captures it and plays it back over their air. It is as local a forecast as if they shot it on location right there. We can get our product to any TV station in the United States instantly. When we first starting doing this in 1991, there were "naysayers" who said it couldn't be done. These days, it's taken for granted that it's a neat way to get weathercasts to markets that otherwise would not have had them and give those stations a new saleable product to sell to sponsors who particularly desire being next to weather.

As a byproduct of our TV weathercasts via satellite, we also operate as "Jackson Teleport." We are the "go to" private satellite uplink and studio in Jackson. For example, when you are watching an interview on ABC or FOX News and the anchor is on the set and introduces a guest from another city who joins the anchor on the set via a TV monitor on the set and the interview is conducted this way, well, the person in the TV monitor is being satellite-uplinked from somewhere.

We are the facility in Jackson. We have worked with ABC, NBC, CNN, FOX, ESPN, all the majors and all the major shows since 1991.

We put on WLEZ FM about a year and a half ago. Of course, we play the old standards. It has been a labor of love for me and all of us here at NWN. It is a low-power FM, so we only reach out about 10 to 15 miles, but our listeners love us. We are non-commercial, so we don't sell commercials, but instead have "underwriters." For me to be close to this music all day long, well it makes every day a joy.

Mississippi gave me a chance - a chance to be what I wanted. In the beginning at WLBT-Channel 3 in the early '80, they gave me a chance. I learned the value of starting at the bottom: You have nowhere to go but up! And being at the first-ever black-owned TV station in America, being hired by a black-managed organization, given a fair chance and a career, I got a unique perspective on things. Dr. Aaron Henry was there, and since I was the mail boy/delivery boy, I got to drive him around here and there every week. We were friends and I learned what the civil rights struggle was all about from one of its leaders. The management of WLBT-Channel 3 gave me the helping hand I needed. I will always be indebted to them for this and for teaching me that no matter what the short-term obstacles, all people can and must work together.

I am confounded by the differential in the national perception of the state and the perception of people who actually come here and experience the warmth of our people firsthand. There is a big gap between the two. To send the right message to the rest of the nation and the world, for that matter, we need to aggressively market "The New Mississippi" via every way and means ...and not be a well-kept secret anymore

At my momma's parents' dairy farm, I learned to love the woods and the countryside and the creatures in the woods. It was magical to me then and still is today. That's why I still live in the woods. I equate it with freedom, being able to see nature up close. I love the city, too, but my heart will always be out in the country.

Growing up, I saw my uncles involved in music, one a jazz trumpet player playing gigs while in high school and college, and the other singing those great Otis Redding songs through college. And my momma had the Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett and Benny Goodman and Pete Fountain and Al Hirt records on the giant stereo in the living room. I got immersed in all of this even before I was in school. Then the Beatles came out and everything changed. But the standards and jazz in general are what I have in my heart. Music is what likely got me interested in media in the first place.

I left Southeastern University my junior year and went to Los Angeles, then to New York, to play music (sing). We played Max's Kansas City and CBGB's, but of course it didn't pay the bills. I was involved in a New York City film school project, where I was basically a "grip" on various film and video shoots around New York City. After that project concluded, I found myself at NBC network in the master control room, keeping the commercial log. That was my first taste of TV and my first real job. In fact, the day I got hired on my way up on the elevator as I walked in there were Dan Akroyd and John Belushi. They were in the heyday of Saturday Night Live and they were cutting up all the way up, basically making fun of the stuffed suits filling up the elevator. Anyway, that's how I first got exposed to TV.

My first brush with singing standards was in the mid '90s. The TV weather via satellite project was up and going and I just went ahead and did it and enjoyed it. Well, sometimes change comes into your life out of the blue, and around this time my wife got diagnosed with breast cancer. She died in 2000. For a long time, I think I just wandered around in a fog. How my business survived is a miracle. If not for good people on board here like Jason McCleave, we would have failed. And, for sure, I was not able to sing. I thought that I would never sing again either. I was at a point where I sort of cloistered myself up and shut down. Then, in November of 2002, at a wedding reception, bumped into my old friend Cary Spence, who had for years been the manager of POET'S where I had once sung the old Sinatra songs. He asked me to consider singing for the month of December at the restaurant he was now managing, Huntington's Grille, during the holiday season. I thought about it, and though I really wanted to do it, I just was not sure I could. Well, I tried it and it brought a joy I was missing back into my life. In fact, it was like therapy. When you sing, you are physically like a horn pushing out the sound. Now, mix that with the emotion of the song, the interpretation of the lyric and you've got a sort of metaphysical experience going! So, here we are two-and-a-half years later still going every Friday and Saturday night.

The shining moment of a career is realizing you've survived the ebb and flow of business, of life for that matter. That's the accomplishment. To do your best at what you do well enough to be here again tomorrow to do it again. If you are here, then that means you are winning the battle. The longer you are here, hopefully the better you become at it and the wiser you become.

I think that the secret to success in life is to find and then follow your passion. When I worked in Shreveport as a TV weather-guy years ago and also did entertainment reporting, I did a backstage interview with the great big-band drummer Buddy Rich. Between sets backstage with my cameraman, I asked him what drove him to be out on the road at this point in his life. He looked at me squarely in the eye and said, "Son, I'm working at play. I could be home in Beverly Hills right now, but this is what I love." Well, I never forgot that. If you are passionate about what you do, then it's not work; it becomes your passion.

I have many heroes. One is Ted Turner. I learned from him my idea to create this TV weathercast syndication model. He had taken his independent Channel 17 and put it up on a satellite, creating the first "Superstation." I have read everything I could find on him through the years and met him once at a commencement speech at Tougaloo College around the time I was building the satellite uplink. I think I've learned from his success - and also from his missteps. I also admire Frank Sinatra. Yes, because he was a great singer, but moreso for being a man. He stuck by his guns. If he was in love, he was really in love. If he was down, he was really down, but not so down that he couldn't scrape himself up and win an Academy Award. He got up. At a time when Sammy Davis Jr. could perform in Vegas but couldn't stay in the hotel, Sinatra told them if Sammy couldn't stay, he wouldn't sing. That changed their minds quickly. It was his guts and integrity that I admire.

I am involved with the Salvation Army - which is a great organization - and with the Multiple Sclerosis Society. I've learned more about Multiple Sclerosis over the last year or two, how it strikes young adults right in the prime of life out of the blue. I would like to ask everyone reading this article to learn more about the disease and consider making a contribution to the MS Society of Mississippi, where the money goes toward helping young families stricken by this malady and toward finding a cure. If you and your family are well, that's reason enough to help. The Multiple Sclerosis Society's Web site is [nationalmssociety.org](http://nationalmssociety.org).

**GRAPHIC:** Joe Ellis, The Clarion-Ledger

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

# INDEX 313



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Copyright 2005 The Commercial Appeal, Inc.  
The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN)

May 8, 2005 Sunday Final Edition

**SECTION:** SPORTS; Pg. C12

**LENGTH:** 600 words

**HEADLINE:** NOTES

**BODY:**

Notebook

Might Marlins take a gamble on Vegas?

Foiled yet again by the state Legislature, the Florida Marlins remain winless in their bid for a new ballpark and must now decide their next move.

Might it be to another city?

Nobody made any threats Friday, and Marlins officials declined to comment on their latest stadium setback beyond issuing a brief statement when the Legislature adjourned shortly before midnight.

"We are deeply disappointed in the Florida Legislature's decision, and we feel very bad for all of the baseball fans in South Florida," owner Jeffrey Loria said. "We will now review our options, and not comment further until this review is completed."

The Senate's failure to pass a \$60 million tax rebate left two-time World Series champion Florida 0-for-4 in attempts to obtain state money for a ballpark.

"I think it's a major mistake," said third baseman Mike Lowell, who grew up in South Florida. "We're one of the few teams that has proven we can win a championship in this state, and it just seems not everyone is a big fan of us."

The Marlins have said that without state financial help, they might move. Five months ago, team officials met in Las Vegas with Mayor Oscar Goodman, who wants a new ballpark and a major league franchise for it.

The Marlins are committed to their current home through 2006 and have one-year lease options through 2010. But third baseman Mike Lowell said he doesn't foresee the Marlins still playing there a decade from now.

"There are other cities that are going to pay major dollars to build a stadium for someone," Lowell said. "I know Mr. Loria wants it to work here, but to a certain degree he's a businessman. He's a private jet away from going anywhere."

"If I'm in his shoes and Vegas calls and says, 'I'm going to build a \$450 million stadium and you don't have to pay anything,' what are you going to do? Keep losing money here? That's tough."

Bonds' knee saga continues

Barry Bonds is undergoing aggressive antibiotic therapy on his troublesome right knee.

The Giants said in a press release they will provide updates on Bonds's condition "as events warrant." Bonds wants all information on his health to be disseminated via his Web site, [www.barrybonds.com](http://www.barrybonds.com), which he hasn't updated since Tuesday.

The 40-year-old Bonds is recovering from three surgeries on his right knee since Jan. 31.

Bonds underwent arthroscopic surgery Monday as doctors tried to clean out an infection, first draining fluids from his knee.

It was also reported Saturday that Major League Baseball is looking into Barry Bonds' relationships and activities,

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according to a report in the New York Daily News.

The newspaper reported in its Sunday editions that baseball security officials believe Bonds might be at risk of conviction over allegations of tax fraud.

#### Sosa misses second straight start

Sammy Sosa missed a second straight start Saturday with a minor foot injury that will probably keep him sidelined through the weekend.

Sosa started every game for Baltimore this season until Friday night, when he sat out the Orioles' 3-1 win over Kansas City with an abscess on the bottom of his left foot.

"It looks better and it feels better," Orioles trainer Richie Bancells said Saturday. "The wound needs time to heal, and it's healing as it should be."

Bancells did not put a timetable on Sosa's return, but manager Lee Mazzilli guessed it would be Monday.

"Sammy probably will not be ready tomorrow. I'll probably give him another two days," Mazzilli said. "We're targeting for Monday."

- From Our Press Services

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

# **INDEX 314**

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Copyright 2005 Express Newspapers  
Daily Star

May 8, 2005

**SECTION:** U.K. 1st Edition; NEWS; Pg. 14

**LENGTH:** 124 words

**HEADLINE:** THE PAPER FOR WINNERS

**BODY:**

THE lucky winner of our fantastic Las Vegas competition is Mike Salmon, a 25-year-old project manager from Plymouth.

Thanks to the Daily Star Sunday and the world's No.1 online casino and poker room 888. com, Mike will help Vegas celebrate its 100th anniversary on May 15 with a three-night stay at a glitzy hotel on the city's world famous strip.

"It's brilliant, " said Mike, right, who plans to take girlfriend Libby with him. He says he can't wait to blow the £500 spending money at the tables.

"I'm definitely going to do some gambling, " he added. "You've got to really. And Libby's looking forward to it. We'll have to take in a show and, if we've got enough money left, we might even take a trip to the Grand Canyon."

**LOAD-DATE:** May 9, 2005

# **INDEX 315**

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Copyright 2005 Express Newspapers  
Daily Star

May 8, 2005

**SECTION:** U.K. 1st Edition; NEWS; Pg. 34

**LENGTH:** 105 words

**HEADLINE:** HERO'S A BIG FLOP

**BODY:**

A PASSENGER tried to land a plane when the pilot died of a heart attack – but missed the runway.

The twin-engined Gulfstream executive aircraft had just taken off from Las Vegas for San Diego when pilot Doug Reichardt collapsed.

A passenger rushed to take the controls and headed back to the airport.

But he belly-flopped the plane several hundred yards short of the runway.

Amazingly, none of the passengers was seriously hurt. The injured were taken to a Vegas hospital and later released.

Donn Walker, regional spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration, said:

"They have had a lucky escape."

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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# **INDEX 316**

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- Copyright 2005 THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

May 8, 2005 Sunday  
SECOND EDITION

**SECTION:** POINTS; SUNDAY LETTERS; Pg. 3P

**LENGTH:** 528 words

**HEADLINE:** THE CASE OF THE RUNAWAY BRIDE

**BODY:**

Whose business is it?

Re: "Runaway bride owes no apology to public," by Jacquielynn Floyd, Tuesday Metro.

Many thanks for Ms. Floyd's comments regarding the runaway bride. It is so good to hear a sane voice speak about situations like this one.

I was dumbfounded seeing this being covered relentlessly by CNN and all its permutations. Hundreds of lives are disrupted and challenged every day, and we move on not knowing and often not caring.

It is impossible to know what was really going on with this woman, and as Jacquielynn pointed out, it is none of our business. Byron Katie says there are three kinds of business in this world: mine, yours and God's. If I'm minding yours or God's, who's minding mine?

Let's leave these folks to sort out their lives in peace and get back to minding what is most important: our own lives.

Wiley Beveridge, Dallas

And if it's the groom?

I wonder what the public and law enforcement reaction would have been if the groom had run to Vegas instead of the bride. I doubt he would have received a teddy bear from the Albuquerque police.

How long until her cold feet are attributed to some form of oppression by the groom?

Matthew Davis, Red Oak

Just a slow news week

Thank you, Jacquielynn Floyd, for saying what I thought no one in the media was going to say. You and Jon Stewart are the only ones I have heard who were making any sense.

I am sure there have been hundreds of other brides and probably even more bridegrooms who have bolted before the big day. As Ms. Floyd wrote, Jennifer Wilbanks just happened to be the one who got caught during a slow news week: Michael Jackson plugging along too slowly; the new pope is not new any more; everyone wants to close their eyes and ears about Iraq; and the truth about American Idol had yet to premier.

So the news outlets hauled out their satellite trucks, and Ms. Wilbanks was big news.

Why aren't we just grateful she is alive?

Sandy Shahwan, Dallas

She owes an apology

I hope there are no TV shows, book deals or movies about Jennifer Wilbanks. She doesn't deserve the publicity. Unless law enforcement throws the book at her, we can expect to see copycat situations.

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For this reason, I do think she owes the public an apology!

Ceil Breitwieser, Dallas

Learn responsibility

Re: "Without a trace - When runaway bride Jennifer Wilbanks hit the road last week, any decency she had vanished with her. She doesn't deserve a free pass," by Mark Davis, Wednesday Viewpoints.

Again the bleeding hearts ... Jennifer Wilbanks cost untold dollars, countless people's time and untold grief to her family and the families of real victims. She should have to reimburse every dollar spent to "find" her and hours of community service.

Put her in something that will wake her to fact that the world does not revolve around her. If she didn't want to get married, she needs to learn what the consequence will be if she does not take responsibility for her actions.

Nancy Terry, Dallas

Yes, just what he needs

I was so relieved that Mark Davis decided to publicly advise the prosecutors of Duluth, Ga., how to proceed with Jennifer Wilbanks. I'm sure they needed his compassionate and empathetic insight.

James Taylor, Dallas

GRAPHIC: PHOTO(S): (Associated Press) Jennifer Wilbanks.

LOAD-DATE: May 8, 2005

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Copyright 2005 The Denver Post  
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The Denver Post

May 8, 2005 Sunday  
FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** Pg. L-01

**LENGTH:** 1330 words

**HEADLINE:** A GUY THING Intimate lies, distant desire dance as one STRIP CLUBS, BEYOND TITILLATION, OFFER A LESSON ON WHAT IT IS TO BE A MAN

**BYLINE:** Vic Vogler A GUY THING

**BODY:**

As the Diamond Cabaret dancer leaned close, her melon-floral scent and the words "you're gorgeous" snuggling my cheek, I got religion. It's a man's creed, which like any hard-core faith seeks total devotion or rejection; indifference is what damns you.

I finally understood why every man would do well to write at least one strip-club chapter into his life. It's not that we require the neon promise of arousal, the titillation of sex denied.

It's that a man who resists objectifying a woman is lying to himself. We must, to stretch our religion metaphor, walk through the valley of the shadow of lust, a trek without which we cannot square our hormonal, emotional and spiritual accounts. To suppress our natures is to emasculate ourselves; respecting and managing them allows us to be decent boyfriends, husbands and fathers. And better men.

Watching strippers never did much for me. So, during trips to Houston and New Orleans over the past several months, plus Denver more recently, I visited clubs to explore why. I went with friends, chatted with dancers and observed patrons.

To my mind, however, the question had already been answered.

A stripper, like a prostitute, doesn't do what she does for us. Eyes cast to no one and nothing, she wastes her youth and talent on a pole. If she smiles and preens, it feeds our delusion of intimacy, the idea that ones and fives snapped beneath a G-string can cultivate a bond she shares with no other.

At least 90 percent of these women, says every dancer I have ever asked, are strung out or sexually traumatized, often starting in childhood.

"I didn't have a father growing up," Jada, a.k.a. XTC, told me in Houston - common in her experience in the world of dancing.

Sex and yearning are never simple, however. One of my guides to Gomorrah illustrated the point. "You get to be Hugh Hefner for an hour. And that's worth a couple hundred dollars."

Acknowledging our desire to be Hef, at least every so often, is worth much more, as my three-city journey affirmed.

Houston

No one strips as Cyndi Lauper sings "Time After Time," her one great song: "Lying in my bed I hear the clock tick and think of you. ..."

It feels like dead air on a radio broadcast, but the patrons at Treasures don't care. No one in either of the club's two main rooms is watching the dancers anyway.

Here, and at the other clubs my friend will show me in a city widely considered the strip-club capital of America, it's

all about the lap dances.

The women pay a nominal fee each night for the chance to make \$300-\$1,500, a waitress says. Boyfriends are banned from the club - something about fights breaking out.

Dancers from Russia, Argentina and down the street converge on my friend and me like schools of fish in dark water. They fasten to various men, negotiating, then bouncing and writhing in a way that occurs behind red-curtained rooms in other cities.

My friend considers strip clubs a special-occasion treat; too much indulgence would be "economic suicide."

"It's Playboy in three dimensions," he says. Whether a guy is 20 or 60, "the women are always the same age."

He tempers this enthusiasm for the scene by conceding "the hopelessness of it."

Ariel, an Asiatic stunner, doesn't get my sputtering ambivalence when I decline her \$20 services. Her sexiness is overtly impersonal, embodying why I don't like strip clubs. Yet the heat of it so close makes my wallet feel heavy.

That quality in Molly, a statuesque brunet with glasses, feels more sad and honest to me. It springs from why she began dancing.

"I was dirt poor," she says, and her car had been repossessed. At strip clubs, "a lot of the girls are (screwed) up." Yet no more than the waitresses at Chili's, Molly says, and they make a lot less money.

Later, as I'm leaving, a male employee says, "I hope you don't have a wife or girlfriend to go home to."

He's referring to the lipstick on my white shirt - compliments of Molly?

"No, I don't," I reply.

"Excellent!"

At Caligula, a seedier cousin of Treasures, Jada is sitting with her leg across my lap because she wants to, she says. She requires only a drink from me to gladly tell her life story.

Voluptuous and well over 6 feet tall in her clear platform shoes, Jada is a forceful version of most strippers I have ever talked to: self-possessed but fragile, worldly but cynical.

Jada, or XTC, is planning on college; she isn't ashamed of her work ("I am an entertainer"); men are this close to useless ("I really don't need a man to please me. All I want from a man is the touch and holding").

"I think I am an attractive woman," Jada says. "I think I'm an intelligent woman."

She would prostitute herself only to support her child.

"My mom didn't raise ... a prostitute. She raised a woman."

Randi (not her real name; I'm not a narc) is a dancer who offers herself as a call girl after-hours. Like a truck-stop waitress who's known her co-worker for 20 years, she glides by and calls Jada "a good girl."

"Ain't that right, Alexis?" she says.

"It's XTC," Jada responds.

New Orleans

The strip clubs seem endless on Bourbon Street, where men on rented balconies chant, "Show your (breasts)," then reward the many female passers-by who do with cheering and plastic beads.

On a similar balcony filled with women, I innocently approach when beckoned, only to face a demand to show a part of my anatomy that involves removing my boxer shorts. Uh, no.

At Hustler's, the patrons - tourists juiced on jazz and beer - are much more eager to throw money at the strippers than the resigned regulars in Houston. And the strippers are much less aggressive about peddling lap dances.

The dancers also look how I feel: very bored. One of my two companions isn't bored so much as antsy. He reminds me of a junior high kid nervously waiting to ask his homeroom crush for a dance.

Bailey, a freshly scrubbed blond of 27 who could star on the teen TV hit "The O.C.," says about 10 percent of her fellow dancers enjoy themselves onstage.

"I'm more into pleasing the crowd," says Bailey, who works at Hustler clubs nationwide. What pleases her more, I'm sure, is the \$1,000 a night she purports to make, plus a boyfriend who doesn't mind her profession.

Denver

Accompanied by my pal Gary, I enter Diamond Cabaret with the swagger of someone certain of winning big at a casino.

The debauchery of Houston and New Orleans has backed up my view of strip clubs without essentially changing it. I will jot down some local color and leave.

The women here are B-movie beautiful, spread among four circular stages without poles and bathed in cool lighting that reminds me of Vegas. It's a Tuesday, and the place feels comfortably empty, relaxing almost.

That's when I'm lulled into the fantasy.

A lovely thing – "tragically" skinny, in Gary's words – slides into a chair at our table. She could have played Jennifer Aniston's little sis on "Friends"

Anticipating the tricks of other clubs, I tell Scarlett we won't be buying her any champagne or getting any lap dances. She's taken aback but stays and chats anyway.

The details of her life and how she expresses them aren't remarkable: 20 years old, studying at beauty school, hiding her profession from her parents. In August, pockets filled with the cash of lonely men, she plans to leave the stage altogether.

What's remarkable is that after Scarlett leaves to strip on the stage next to us, I'm hoping she'll return, even without the promise of money.

When she does, I feel like that junior high kid, getting another shot to ask his favorite girl to dance.

It's the same feeling as when, earlier on, I handed a single to another dancer after her set; the one who then brushed my cheek with her wonderful light scent. Arousal was in the mix, but it felt – in its momentary swoon – like the arousal of puppy love.

"It's the only environment I can think of where very attractive women try to catch your eye," Gary says.

And perhaps the only one where we're happy to believe the prettiest of lies.

Staff writer Vic Vogler can be reached at 303-820-1749 or [vvogler@denverpost.com](mailto:vvogler@denverpost.com).

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Herald News (Passaic County, NJ)

May 8, 2005 Sunday  
All Editions

**SECTION:** LIFE; Pg. D03

**LENGTH:** 702 words

**HEADLINE:** Guidance for the bride-not-to-be

**BYLINE:** By MONICA L. HAYNES, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Wire Services

**BODY:**

Thanks to a certain bride-not-to-be in Georgia, we all now know how not to call off a wedding.

Instead of getting married last weekend, runaway bride Jennifer Wilbanks was hiding her face from photographers after concocting a story about being kidnapped to avoid her lavish 600-guest wedding.

But how does a bride and groom properly cancel that walk down the aisle when they've gone from having cold feet to becoming a human Popsicle?

"We've definitely heard a lot about canceled weddings, but we've never heard anything like this, where a bride just disappeared," said Emily Upham Howell, spokeswoman for The Emily Post Institute.

If one does decide to formally call off the nuptials rather than hop a bus to Vegas, communication is important, she said.

Once a bride begins to have serious doubts, she needs to talk to her fiancé. If it's the groom who's feeling shaky, the same applies.

If they decide to cancel or postpone the event, Howell said, the hosts, usually the parents of the bride and groom, are told. The hosts then begin the difficult task of informing guests.

"If there's enough time you can send out a printed announcement," she said.

If not, the bride and groom can solicit the help of bridal party members to call wedding guests to let them know the wedding has been canceled or postponed. Gifts should be returned with a note explaining the situation.

"Clearly this is going to be painful and upsetting for many people besides the bride and groom," Howell said. "Emotions will be running high."

Pittsburgh wedding consultant Deb Waterkotte has helped make the phone calls when a wedding has been nixed.

"I've probably done that 10 times in the last 16 years," she said. "That is a real feeling, the cold feet and the fearfulness."

Wedding planning is very stressful and can lead to huge disagreements and very anxious moments for couples.

Waterkotte recommends that couples seek counseling when doubts arise to help determine if it's a case of pre-wedding jitters or something more serious. Once a couple has decided to call things off, it's almost impossible to recoup any of the money expended.

"It's really up to the servicer and what's on the contract," Waterkotte said.

For the most part, however, deposits are lost. When a wedding is only a week away, the hall has been paid for, florists have incurred costs of ordering flowers, caterers have ordered the food, and bands and photographers cannot book another engagement on such short notice.

"It's almost better to go ahead and throw the party," she said.

Rachel Safier has written the book on canceling a wedding – literally.

After expressing serious doubts two months before her nuptials, her fiancé decided two weeks beforehand that Safier's heart just wasn't in it and called it off. Two years ago Safier co-wrote, with Wendy Roberts, a book about the experience called "There Goes the Bride: Making Up Your Mind, Calling It Off and Moving On."

Safier also has a Web site [www.theregoesthebride.com](http://www.theregoesthebride.com), where "almost brides" can chat about their experiences and find useful information about when and how to cancel a wedding.

In light of Wilbanks' story, Safier said she's been getting a lot of e-mail from women who have thought about running away from it all before they decided to take a more rational approach.

"If you feel like you do need to make yourself scarce, you have to write a Dear John letter at the very least," Safier said. "There's no great way to break somebody's heart, but it's a lot better than thinking somebody's been kidnapped or killed."

That said, Safier certainly can sympathize with Wilbanks.

"I found it paralyzing when I didn't want to get married," she said. "It just felt wrong. I couldn't understand why I was having cold feet."

Safier said she was recently asked by a British journalist if she felt Wilbanks' actions will prompt more women to head for the hills instead of the wedding chapel. She said she doesn't think so because getting cold feet is pretty common.

What it probably will do, she said, is motivate more couples to have the kind of discussions they should have had in the first place.

"Anytime that there's communication," she said, "it's only for the better."

Contact Monica Haynes at [mhaynes@post-gazette.com](mailto:mhaynes@post-gazette.com).

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005



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The Honolulu Advertiser (Hawaii)

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION:** TRAVEL; Pg. 2E

**LENGTH:** 418 words

**HEADLINE:** HOLOHOLO

**BYLINE:** Adams Wanda

**BODY:**

Discounts, specials and attractions of interest to people around Hawai'i

Royal Kona open during face-lift

The venerable Royal Kona Resort, built in 1967 by the same Conrad Hilton team involved with the Hilton Hawaiian Village, is undergoing a major renovation. The hotel is being worked on in stages and will not be closed during the project, which will continue into late 2006. Room renovations will include a key-card system, integrated safes, a new air-conditioning system and upgraded bathrooms. A computer-assisted property management system is expected to expedite check-in and checkout. The old Tropics restaurant will be reborn as an updated version of the Don the Beachcomber's bar and grill of Waikiki fame. The hotel is owned by Ed and Lynn Hogan of Pleasant Holidays and operated by Hawaiian Hotels and Resorts.

**VEGAS ON THE RITZ:** The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Las Vegas, has announced two family-friendly travel packages for summer. The Vegas Family Vacation offers a resort-view room at \$249 a night, a third night free, free breakfast and lunch for children, and half off the first two spa treatments. Good Things Come in Twos offers a room rate of \$180 a night weekdays or \$209 weekends, plus a second room at half off. Both are available May 29 to Sept. 7. Taxes are not included in quoted prices. Information: (800) 241-3333 or [www.ritzcarlton.com](http://www.ritzcarlton.com) (click on locations).

**BAG IT:** Aloha Airlines offers BaggageDirect service that allows passengers departing from Honolulu or Kahului to have their bags picked up in advance and checked through to their destination here or on the Mainland. All passengers must be present at the time of pickup, with a valid picture ID. No changes can be made to tickets, seat assignments or other arrangements once claim checks and boarding passes are issued. Fees begin at \$30 for the first passenger and \$15 for each additional passenger for pickup at your hotel or home and check-through to the airport's baggage claim. For an additional fee, you can have the bags delivered to a home or hotel at the other end. Hawaiian Airlines, ATA and Continental also offer BaggageDirect service. Information: [www.baggagedirect.com](http://www.baggagedirect.com); (800) 959-4424.

**BIG "SECRET":** Based on nominations from Travelocity members from around North America, Giovanni's Aloha Shrimp has been recognized as one of the top 10 local favorites for Hawai'i. See all 10 nominees at [http://svc.travelocity.com/promos/mkt\\_main/0,,TRAVELOCITY,00.html](http://svc.travelocity.com/promos/mkt_main/0,,TRAVELOCITY,00.html).

- Wanda A. Adams

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Copyright 2005 DR Partners d/b Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Las Vegas Review-Journal (Nevada)

May 8, 2005 Sunday FINAL EDITION

**SECTION:** B; Pg. 1B**LENGTH:** 707 words**HEADLINE:** Del Mar's demise won**BYLINE:** John L. Smith**BODY:**

The Del Mar is dead.

For now, the Boulevard's fallen angels will have to find another place to play for pay.

They'll survive, but the race is run for the Del Mar, the notorious hot-sheet motel on Las Vegas Boulevard that for a generation catered to the quickie and advertised hourly rates and X-rated movies. On Wednesday, the City Council set irony aside and voted to shut down what authorities called a bustling brothel riddled with shady liaisons. And, no, they didn't mean City Hall.

The council was easily persuaded by Metro's dramatic display of Del Mar statistics and prophylactics. But the Del Mar's demise raises an interesting issue given the rampant prostitution that takes place largely unchecked in Las Vegas.

Metro vice has long had the impossible task of prioritizing the prolific prostitution that takes place inside the local resort industry. Faced with the reality that prostitution, though illegal, has always been part of the Vegas visitors' menu, they've wisely focused their resources on the most blatant offenders and those who exploit children.

For now, forget the image of the bellhop with the little black book. And never mind that the Yellow Pages has more than 100 pages of ads for escort services, exotic entertainers, and freelance models. Times are changing in the local sex trade.

These days, you'll sometimes find the FBI working cases against pimps who bring underage girls across state lines to turn them out on the Strip. Although in many respects the story never changes, local and federal authorities are finding some pimps are becoming increasingly sophisticated, taking advantage of Internet advertising and client screening services in an effort to display their wares without getting arrested.

Freelance pimps are common, but investigators are also finding prostitutes from Eastern Europe and Asia working in Southern Nevada and the scent of organized crime. Because many Russian and Chinese girls are here illegally, they're especially vulnerable to coercion and extortion by operators who speak their language and stoke their fears.

While streetwalkers and sloppy outcall entertainers take the brunt of the law enforcement effort, life is far different for penthouse prostitutes.

Here is where local society's sexual hypocrisy gets thick.

Crack whores are regularly paraded to the county lockup, but high-roller porn star parties on the Strip are rarely busted. Adult film actresses make a fortune working off-camera in Las Vegas.

Then there's the mysterious case of Manhattan-based New York Elites.

New York Elites dispatched high-dollar hookers to 22 cities before its owners of record, Elena Trochtchenkova and Rady Abdel Salem Abbassy, were arrested in April on federal interstate prostitution, money laundering, and tax charges. The pair are accused of attempting to conceal at least \$5.5 million in illegal revenues generated for sexual services for which customers paid as much as \$1,500 per hour.

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It surely won't shock you to learn that New York Elites' girls picked up frequent flier miles on their Las Vegas runs. With 200 women, New York Elites serviced a high-end clientele, and sources say that included plenty of Strip customers, before having their service interrupted by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement investigation.

It's a new spin on an old play. A decade ago, Heidi Fleiss' girls were flown into Las Vegas — sometimes on casino jets — for the purpose of pleasuring high rollers. Fleiss took a fall but was immediately replaced. The latest incarnations add Internet savvy to the job description.

It's noteworthy that a reliable source reports the immigration investigation might have accidentally short-circuited an FBI inquiry into the sale of New York Elites to a Bonanno crime family soldier who lives in Las Vegas.

The Boulevard's fallen angels will survive, but the penthouse girls thrive in a world without much heat.

It's a world that brims with endless cash and the celebrity that accompanies Las Vegas' sensuous arts.

It's enough to make the dirty days of the Del Mar seem quaint by comparison.

John L. Smith's column appears Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. E-mail him at [Smith@reviewjournal.com](mailto:Smith@reviewjournal.com) or call 383-0295.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005

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Copyright 2005 The Leaf-Chronicle (Clarksville, TN)  
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The Leaf-Chronicle (Clarksville, Tennessee)

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION:** OPINION; Pg. 13A

**LENGTH:** 665 words

**HEADLINE:** What's Going on

**BYLINE:** George Poague

**BODY:**

General Motors should spurn Kerkorian's advances

\* Previous victims include Chrysler and MGM studio.

George Poague

General Motors should be afraid - very afraid - of Las Vegas billionaire Kirk Kerkorian's attempts to increase his stock holdings in the troubled automotive company.

The words used to describe Kerkorian, 87, sound right out of an Errol Flynn movie: "buccaneer," "swashbuckler," "raider," "freebooter." These are nicer ways to say "pirate."

When Kerkorian was Chrysler's major shareholder, in the late '90s, he was also a "major nuisance" (to use the words of NPR's "Marketplace"). He launched a phony takeover bid - he didn't have the money to back up his scheme. But the move rattled Chrysler's then-CEO Bob Eaton so much, he became convinced the company could not survive without a partner. So a deal was struck with Germany's DaimlerBenz.

Although presented in the press as a "marriage of equals," it soon became evident that the Germans were in the driver's seat. Thus America's Big Three was reduced to the Big Two (Ford and GM). The whole story is told in a fascinating book, "Taken for a Ride: How DaimlerBenz Drove Off With Chrysler," by Bill Vlasic and Bradley A. Stertz.

Kerkorian is also responsible, more than any single person, for the demise of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer movie studio.

Ever since 1969, Kerkorian has been buying, selling, buying back and reselling MGM. Its tattered remnants were finally sold to Sony last month. For all practical purposes, MGM no longer exists.

Most people aren't aware of what's been lost. Although covered in the trade press, this newspaper's wire services didn't bother to do a story on the studio's dissolution.

Founded in 1924, MGM peaked in the '30s and '40s as the studio with "More Stars Than There Are in the Heavens." These stars included Clark Gable, Greta Garbo, Jean Harlow, Joan Crawford, Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland, Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly, the Marx Brothers, Laurel and Hardy ... and many, many more.

"Grand Hotel," "Mutiny on the Bounty," "Gone With the Wind," "The Wizard of Oz," "An American in Paris," "Singin' in the Rain," "Ben Hur," "Dr. Zhivago," "2001" and "Network" are just a few of MGM's classics.

While sometimes ridiculed for its emphasis on glossy escapism - the studio's motto, "Ars Gratia Artis" ("Art for Art's Sake"), often had to be taken with a grain of salt - MGM wasn't above the occasional hard-hitting adult drama.

Four of the films in Warner Video's "Controversial Classics" DVD set, due this week, are MGM productions: "Fury" (about lynching), "Bad Day at Black Rock" (about prejudice against Japanese-Americans), "The Blackboard Jungle" (juvenile delinquency at inner-city high schools) and "The Americanization of Emily" (which debunks the notion that it's

glorious to die for your country).

With MGM goes its longtime partner, United Artists, the indie founded in 1919 by Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and D.W. Griffith. UA's classics include "High Noon," "Some Like it Hot," "The Apartment," "Apocalypse Now," "Raging Bull," the Clint Eastwood spaghetti westerns and the James Bond, Pink Panther and Rocky series.

If you think Kerkorian is losing any sleep over this, forget it. He was never interested in making movies. He wanted the MGM brand for his casinos. (The studio was also briefly owned by Ted Turner, who wanted the film library for his cable TV operations.) The current remake of "The Amityville Horror" could be the last film to open with Leo the Lion's roar.

If GM doesn't want to suffer the same fate as Chrysler, MGM and United Artists, it will tell Kerkorian to take a powder.

On the other hand, if the company wants Chevrolet, Pontiac and Cadillac to live on as the names of Vegas hotels and casinos, a deal with Kirk might be a smart move.

This is a column of personal opinion. Wire editor George Poague can be reached at 245-0218 or by e-mail at [georgepoague@theleafchronicle.com](mailto:georgepoague@theleafchronicle.com)

**LOAD-DATE:** May 10, 2005



# **INDEX 322**

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May 8, 2005 Sunday FILA EDITION

SECTION: M; Pg. 9

LENGTH: 549 words

HEADLINE: FICTION

BODY:

GENERATIONAL TALE

UNCOVERS SECRETS

\* Unexpected Blessings. Barbara Taylor Bradford. St. Martin's. 496 pages. \$24.95.

Bradford weighs in with the fifth volume of a family saga begun more than a quarter-century ago with *A Woman of Substance*. In that book, Emma Harte did not marry her master; instead she became "one of the most famous merchant princes ever known," thus establishing a family business of international scope. In the most recent installment, Emma's granddaughter Paula runs the family's department store, Harte's of Knightsbridge. Paula's daughters and niece uncover family secrets and close ranks to protect one another from the encroachments of kidnapping husbands, lying lovers and other menaces. If you haven't yet read Bradford, consider that the book begins with five pages of genealogy to identify the 50-odd characters in this generation-spanning tale. The Harte saga is as much a force of nature as a work of fiction. Plot is its strong suit. The dialogue can be wooden, but the issues at stake still compel readers after 25 years.

\* Lady Luck's Map of Vegas. Barbara Samuel. Ballantine. 304 pages. \$23.95.

The journey in Samuel's book begins with 40-year-old India's positive pregnancy test and takes her from Colorado through New Mexico to Las Vegas with her mother, Eldora, riding shotgun. Their route retraces one they had taken years earlier, with Gypsy, India's twin sister. Eldora talks about her childhood and India about Gypsy's schizophrenia. The past unfolds as no-longer-young mother and daughter search small New Mexican towns for Gypsy, now an artist who has entered a delusional, nomadic phase. India worries about her pregnancy and whether her child will be schizophrenic. Despite this worry, the novel's burden of deception, the grim life surrounding a schizophrenic, and the systematic searching of homeless shelters, this road trip is oddly lighthearted. India and Eldora's journey on Route 66 takes them both back in time and forward toward a future that they confront without pretense.

\* Book Doctor. Esther Cohen. Counterpoint. 251 pages. \$23.

Arlette Rosen is the title character in Cohen's delightful second novel. "For a very reasonable fee," an ad placed by Arlette reads, "with a guaranteed prompt and gentle reply, I can help you with your book idea." One of her clients, Harbinger Singh, is a forerunner of change. Arlette's relationship with her boyfriend, Jake, and her affair with Harbinger thread like a lifeline through this book, in which all the characters write and invent any number of other novels. These are not fully formed plots that the reader must attend to, but snippets, little details, sets of characters, events and situations. Overlaying all is the prospect of books not yet written that shift and reconfigure in the space of a phrase or a word — the world awash in possibility. *Book Doctor* is an optimistic novel. Its tone, giddy with promise, marks it as women's fiction; Arlette's job — she's a book midwife — does too. But in the end, this one transcends categories — or, in the course of proposing multiple books, falls into all of them — as we follow Arlette's professional and personal life to a perfect conclusion.

Pamela Regis reviewed these books for The Washington Post.

LOAD-DATE: May 8, 2005

N/R 323

PC-01008

# **INDEX 323**

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May 8, 2005 Sunday F I T R EDITION

**SECTION:** J; Pg. 1

**LENGTH:** 2414 words

**HEADLINE:** IN ANOTHER WORLD: TAKE A GLOBAL TOUR WITHOUT EVER LEAVING THE SUNSHINE STATE

**BODY:**

Phineas Fogg took 80 days to go around the world in the Jules Verne novel. Floridians can do a world tour of their own in a lot less time and never leave the state.

No, we're not just talking about the World Showcase at Disney's Epcot Center. In Florida, most of us have come from someplace else — and brought a touch of our home place with us. Which means the baklava is fresh, the ponds are filled with koi and rum drinks are spiked.

Take a tour:

JAPAN

Delray Beach museum

offers hint of the East

Barely a mile from the suburban hubbub of housing developments, the tranquility of a traditional Japanese garden emerges. Koi-filled ponds, waterfalls, stones carefully raked into concentric circles, artfully shaped bonsai plants recall the gardens of Kyoto.

Almost. The ginger and other tropical plantings give its location away. The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardensharks to a century past, when a Yale-educated Japanese man organized a group of farmers from his homeland to create an agriculture colony named Yamato, an ancient name for Japan. The crops fared poorly; many left, and during World War II, much of their remaining land was confiscated. One man, George Morikami, stayed on, growing tomatoes, vegetables and pineapples. When he reached his 80s, the bachelor deeded his land to Palm Beach County.

The story of Morikami and the other colonists is told in a traditional building. It's a touching history of courage, perseverance, failure and generosity.

Today it is home to 16 acres of formal gardens reflecting six historic periods, a traditional wooden bridge, a series of galleries with traditional costumes and crafts (including a delightful array of origami flora and fauna, on display through Sept. 18), and a restaurant. Japanese, of course.

Events include family walks, tea ceremonies, kite-making, Ikebana and music (both Japanese and American). A self-guided audio tour recently has been added. Adults, \$9. Seniors, \$8. Children, \$6. [www.morikami.org](http://www.morikami.org)

POLYNESIA

No need to fly

to get to 'Hawaii'

Given the climate similarities, you might expect Florida and the isles of Polynesia to be something alike, but culturally speaking, they're on different planets. Except, perhaps, at these enclaves:

\* Little Palm Island, Lower Keys: That perfect thatched bungalow on a palm-dotted private island really does exist —

on Little Palm Island, a 15-minute boat ride from the Overseas Highway. When you tire of hanging out in your suite — there are 30 of them — lounging on your porch or relaxing on the beach, you can kayak, fish, dive, sail or hit the spa. Such "relevant luxury" — the latest buzzword — isn't cheap; even in summer rooms run about \$745 per night. Still, for a weekend, you'll need to book in advance. [www.littlepalmisland.com](http://www.littlepalmisland.com)

\* Mai-Kai Restaurant, Fort Lauderdale: It's often described as touristy and tacky — but always fun. If the Samoan fire twirlers and grass-skirted dancers don't make you feel otherworldly enough, dig into the Lobster Bora Bora (flamed with Bourbon), fiery Singapore Chili Prawns or the Hawaiian Orange-Papaya Duck. Or you could just down a couple of the seriously strong tropical cocktails. Order the taxi home before you start drinking; later, you might not remember where you are. (Word to the wise: Joining the Mai-Kai Club can save you money, even on a single visit.) [www.maikai.com](http://www.maikai.com)

## BAHAMAS

A corner of Caribbean  
in Old Key West

If the remote, laid-back feel of the nearby Caribbean is your bag, the Conch Republic is the next best thing, only 90 miles from Cuba. Sure, the famous Margaritas, conch fritters and tiki-party atmosphere give the island a resort-like flair, but if you want a real taste of the tropics skip Duval Street and head to Bahama Village for some of the island's best eats.

Settled by Bahamian immigrants in the 19th century, this historic neighborhood on the southwestern end of Key West is where you'll find Blue Heaven, a colorful restaurant with some earthy regulars — among them roosting chickens. Once the site of a brothel where Hemingway refereed boxing matches, Blue Heaven is now among the best eateries in town, offering quasi-gourmet Bahamian dishes and divine desserts. Entrees \$7-\$36; 729 Thomas St., 305-296-8666, [www.blueheavenkw.com](http://www.blueheavenkw.com).

Locals flock to Bahama Mama's, run by a fourth-generation Bahamian Conch who serves up authentic, down-home island eats: shrimp hash cakes, jerks and pigeon peas. If you go in June, be sure to order Guava Duff for dessert — that's the only month it's available. Entrees \$12.75-\$17.75; 324 Petronia St., 305-294-3355.

Spend the night at Caribbean House, 226 Petronia St. Not only is it a great value for Key West, with summer rates from \$60 to \$70, but the colorfully decorated building will sweep you straight to the islands. 800-543-4518, [www.caribbeanhousekeywest.com](http://www.caribbeanhousekeywest.com).

## OLD FLORIDA

Jensen Beach is  
a step back in time

It may not evoke another country, but Jensen Beach surely recalls another time, before towering condos and high-tech kids programs and seafood drowned in fruity cream sauces.

Here, along the Indian River, you can still get a haircut at a bona-fide barber shop — complete with barber's pole out front — or have a chipped-beef or blueberry-pancake breakfast at homey Dena's Cafe. The main street is a block long, and while you can get a massage here, you aren't hostage to the latest trends.

The town took a hit in last fall's spate of hurricanes, and while a few areas remain shuttered and some docks ravaged, most of the businesses have a fresh coat of paint and a cheerful attitude.

For lodging, you can't beat the cozy River Palm Cottages & Fish Camp (772-334-0401; [www.riverpalmcottages.com](http://www.riverpalmcottages.com)), a collection of fresh family-friendly cottages in a cheerful garden along the river. (Don't be put off by the 'fish camp' idea.) Another great choice: Four Fish Inn ([www.4fishinn.com](http://www.4fishinn.com))

Don't miss Conchy Joe's (772-334-1130), a riverside eatery where seafood tastes like it just leaped out of the water and your barbecued ribs come from a boar.

Go quick. Signs have already been posted for a new condo-retail development along the river. It's already got a gourmet restaurant — 11 Maple St. (772-334-7714) — but at least it serves peanut butter pie.

## GREECE

### Sponges, souvlakia in Tarpon Springs

Possibly no other settlement in Florida is rooted so firmly in another culture as this Gulf coast town just north of Tampa.

Greek sponge divers came here in the early 1900s and brought with them a way of life that still colors the town. About a third of the population is of Greek extraction.

The Greek aura is most evident on touristy Dodecanese Boulevard, which is lined with Greek restaurants and shops selling all manner of items, from Greek vases and linens to homemade soaps and sponges of all shapes. There's even a Spongeorama museum. At the docks, sightseeing boats stand ready to take visitors out to the sponge beds for a diving demonstration. And over it all wafts the soft aroma of souvlakia and baklava.

Biggest event of the year is Epiphany Day, a January religious festival whose highlight comes when teenagers dive to retrieve a lead-weighted cross thrown into the waters by the Orthodox bishop. Next January, the patriarch of the Greek Orthodox Church — equivalent to the pope of the Roman Catholics — will help Tarpon Springs celebrate the 100th year of the ceremony.

Tarpon Springs also is known for the "Weeping Icon of St. Nicholas" in St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. The tears have been observed by thousands, but none since 1973.

Like other communities, Tarpon Springs wonders how to maintain its historic traditions and has mounted efforts to keep young people in the loop. "You don't know where you're going if you don't know where you came from," said George Billiris, a sponge merchant and town spokesman.

Information: Tarpon Springs Chamber of Commerce, 727-937-6109; [www.tarponsprings.com](http://www.tarponsprings.com)

### SCOTLAND

#### Highland Games in not-so-old Dunedin

"The first thing you have to know is that there was no Scottish immigration here," says Vinny Luisi, director of the History Museum here. "The town got its name because two Scots petitioned the government to have a post office here and they named it after a town in Scotland."

Be that as it may, Dunedin makes hay out of that slim Scottish connection. Every spring, it hosts the Highland Games, a spring weekend of Scottish festivities that draws as many as 40,000 spectators to this Gulf coast town just north of Clearwater.

Dunedin also has a Scottish American Society with its own clubhouse and events open to the public. A sister organization, the New World Celts, raises money to send dancers to Scotland and stages a Celtic festival in November. Area schools have marching bagpipe bands — and their members wear kilts.

The biggest manifestation of Dunedin's Scottish influence is the annual Military Tattoo and Highland Games Festival, which features such activities as highland dancing and drumming, sheep dog demonstrations, parades of bands and clans and Scottish games like "tossing the caber." That event, a perennial crowd pleaser, has muscled athletes hurling the telephone-pole-like caber end over end.

But there's more to Dunedin than its Scottish laurels. Downtown's Main street, redolent with old-fashioned street lamps, brick sidewalks and planters, is a popular spot for shopping or strolling. Bikes and skates can be rented to use on the Pinellas Trail, a paved 47-mile hiking/biking trail that runs through the town. Nearby is the Dunedin Marina, where visitors can board fishing and sightseeing vessels or the ferry to Caladesi Island and its fine beach.

Information: Dunedin Chamber of Commerce, 727-733-3197; [www.dunedin-fl.com](http://www.dunedin-fl.com)

### OLD CUBA

Move over, Little Havana;

Ybor City was first

**YBOR CITY** — In its turn-of-the-century heyday, Cuban, Spanish and Italian workers produced hundreds of millions of cigars yearly in more than 150 multistory factories here. Today less than a handful of cigar rollers ply their trade, but like the mythical phoenix, Ybor City has risen from the ashes of that dying industry to become Tampa's liveliest night locale.

Despite that transformation, which now draws thousands to the sector's myriad bars, restaurants, night spots and shops, this one-time "Cigar Capital of the World" has managed to retain much of its ethnic flavor.

Still going strong is the Columbia restaurant, founded 100 years ago. Now occupying an entire city block, it can serve its Spanish and Cuban specialties to 1,500 diners at one time. To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the restaurant recently opened a museum of memorabilia.

Just as historic are the social clubs that served the cigar workers. Circolo Cubanostill caters to citizens of Cuban descent; Centro Asturiano serves the Spanish. Italians play dominoes in the imposing L'Unione Italiana, and while El Centro Espanol no longer is an active club, its grand ballroom with pressed-tin ceiling and parquet floors lives on as the home of the Big City Tavern.

A good grounding in the sector's history can be gained at the Ybor City Museum, a state park. Among displays are colorful cigar boxes, artifacts used in cigar making and historic photos. And at a certain hours, visitors can watch a cigar maker at work.

Information: Ybor City Visitor Information Center, 813-241-8838; [www.ybor.org](http://www.ybor.org)

#### LAS VEGAS

A slice of the Strip

at Seminole Hard Rock

Who needs Sin City? The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood can satisfy most cravings to hit the Strip.

That is, unless you're crazy for blackjack. Sure, there's gambling at the HR, whose pulsating nucleus is a flashy 130,000-square-foot casino, with 65 poker tables as well as 2,000-plus electronic gaming machines — Double Diamond, Red White & Blue, Double Wild Cherry and Five Times Pay. But these bingo-based slots — Class II — are all connected, meaning gamblers play against one another. With Vegas-style Class III gambling, it's man vs. machine, and, alas, illegal in our state.

Looking for an actual Strip? Head to the adjoining 300,000 square-foot Seminole Paradise open-air complex, with a requisite Hooters, stores galore, a mini fountain show la Bellagio and cool comedy — and nightclubs (like rocking twin lounges Pangaea and Gryphon, already celeb hangouts).

HR also has a branch of Jack Gallery, an art shop you'll find at Mandalay Bay in L.V., with the same serigraph of a painting of Ray Charles for sale, and at the same price (\$1,200).

More Vegas-style entertainment awaits with the recently opened Legends in Concert impersonator shows. The Legends Theatre has Rat Pack-style booths, over the top decor and showgirls. The sked currently includes Prince, Shania Twain, Aretha Franklin and Marilyn, with two shows a day, except Mondays.

All-you-can-cram buffets? Not exactly. But there is a 24/7 food court, as well as the Blue Plate cafe serving stick-to-your-ribs grub like meatloaf, roasted turkey and apple pie, so you're good to go all night on the floor.

Information: 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood, 866-502-PLAY (7529), [www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com](http://www.seminolehardrockhollywood.com)

#### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In Masaryktown,

festival flaunts past

**MASARYKTOWN** — Their Czechoslovakian heritage is slowly slipping away, but the elders in this Hernando County town of 1,200 cling to the customs of their forebearers.

Founded by Czech immigrants 81 years ago, the town north of Tampa is named after Czechoslovakia's first president,

Tomas Masaryk. Early residents planted citrus, but switched to production when freezes killed the trees.

The old-country ambience comes out most strongly during the town's heritage festival, held annually in the Masaryktown Community Center on the last Sunday of October. Traditional costumes, most of them antique and handmade, are on display. A troupe of local youths, the Beseda Dancers, performs in traditional garb, and foods include such Czech, Slovak and Moravian specialties as kielbasa with sauerkraut, pastries and walnut nut rolls. Particularly interesting among the costumes is a pleated skirt that was made from a Nazi flag during the German occupation.

Maintaining traditions has been a losing battle. For years, one could sample Czech food at the Masaryktown Cafe, built in the 1920s, but its new owners have switched to Cuban cuisine. And Ann Matatall, who directs the Beseda Dancers, says she used to have eight circles of performers. Now she has only one.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 8, 2005



# **INDEX 324**

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Monterey County Herald

May 8, 2005 Sunday

**SECTION: Z\_BRUNCH\_ENTERTAINMENT**

**LENGTH:** 1076 words

**HEADLINE:** Cruise flips for Holmes

**BYLINE:** George Rush and Joanna Molloy Star Talk

**BODY:**

Tom Cruise seems determined to make sure every earthling — down to the last Asmat in Papua New Guinea — knows he's dating Katie Holmes.

Having confirmed last week that he's seeing the 16-years-younger "Dawson's Creek" actress, Cruise invited her April 30 to see Cirque de Soleil's erotic "Ka" show in Las Vegas.

Never mind that Cruise had already seen the spectacle twice since it opened at the MGM Grand in February. He and Holmes posed for pictures with the cast and crew for 30 minutes. Troupe members also helped Cruise do a backflip backstage.

The acrobatic Kama sutra seemed to have the desired effect on the new couple. Audience members spotted them making out after Cruise emerged from a men's room. (The pair managed to resist a quickie wedding at an all-night chapel.)

Cold-hearted skeptics continue to suspect the hookup is a gambit to promote summer movies: Cruise's "War of the Worlds" and Holmes' "Batman Begins."

According to a new poll, a majority of AOL members believe the weeks-old relationship won't last.

That could be good news for Josh Hartnett. Some contend that, despite her dalliance with Cruise, Holmes has something stronger with the "Sin City" star. Though reps for both Hartnett and Holmes have denied that the two are anything more than friends, one source tells us: "They're still totally in love."

Whoever claims her, um, heart can look forward to a secret vixen.

Back in Catholic high school, she tells Giant magazine, "My senior year we got in trouble about how high our skirts were. Needless to say I had about 20 demerits at the end of the year from it still being too high."

**More Gannon fodder/**

Alleged gay escort Jeff Gannon (born James Dale Guckert) has been taking a lot of heat for passing himself off as a White House reporter. But there has been an upside.

Gannon says that some of his harshest critics — "radical gay activists" — have actually come on to him.

His detractors shed their convictions "like a sweater on a hot day," Gannon says in the new issue of Vanity Fair.

The born-again Gannon refused to talk about his sexuality with reporters David Margolick and Richard Gooding but says, "Did I know sin before I knew salvation? You bet! But my life was heading in the right direction. What's interesting about this is now I'm being punished for things I left behind."

Gannon also hints at doing secret work for which he needed White House security clearance, although he refuses to elaborate: "My history isn't exactly linear."

#### A diplomatic exchange/

Could former New York Stock Exchange Chairman John Reed be trying to broker peace between the Big Board and deal-spoiler Kenneth Langone?

Billionaire investor Langone has been leading a group of Wall Street bigwigs, including former Morgan Stanley President John Mack, bent on blocking the merger between the Big Board and the electronic marketplace Archipelago Holding.

Our spies spotted Reed at the elevator bank that heads up to Langone's Park Avenue offices late last week — days before Langone was scheduled to meet with Wall Street execs to discuss his hostile NYSE takeover bid.

It's unlikely Reed and Langone were having a friendly chat. After Langone resigned as a NYSE director in 2003, he griped about Reed's crusade to reform the exchange in the wake of its \$140 million payout to its former head Dick Grasso, a Langone pal.

Reps for Reed and Langone didn't return calls. But sources suggest former Citicorp Co-Chairman Reed could be looking to bring the two sides together before things get really ugly.

#### Kelly's crying jag/

Kelly Osbourne seemed a rock chick on the verge of a nervous breakdown last weekend.

Ozzy's raccoon-eyed spawn burst into tears on April 30 while dining at Mr. Chow's with PR pals Jonathan Cheban and Lizzie Grubman.

"It was like a spontaneous combustion," a spy said. "Lizzie had to put her arm around her to console her."

Kelly lost it again at the "House of Wax" premiere later that evening when she was scolded by a security guard for text-messaging during the film.

"Do you know who you're speaking to?" she screamed.

Kelly was in better spirits at Paper magazine's TV party the other night at NA, where she had an unlikely makeout session in the DJ booth with Heatherette designer Richie Rich.

#### Lindsay Nightingale?/

Wounded GIs can look forward to some extra bedside tenderness from Lindsay Lohan this summer. We hear the "Mean Girls" star wants to visit military hospitals overseas while promoting her new comedy, "Herbie: Fully Loaded."

While stops at U.S. bases in Europe are a safe bet, recent violence in Baghdad could keep the actress out of the eye of the storm.

Lohan's rep confirms that "she has mentioned traveling to Iraq. But nothing is definite yet."

#### Waxing poetic/

Paris Hilton met her wax replica at Madame Tussaud's in Times Square recently. And, even though the paraffin double seemed to mimic the hotel heiress' blank-eyed stare perfectly, the original Paris found her knockoff lacking.

"I'd like it to be in a pretty dress," she told The New York Daily News' Joe Neumaier. "And I'd cut the hair; it's too long."

Touring the exhibit based on her thriller, "House of Wax," Hilton squealed at the ghouls, checked her hair in a prop mirror, critiqued the Jennifer Aniston wax figure ("She's prettier in real life"), and beamed a live iPod broadcast around the world.

"No such thing as too much Paris," she said with a smile.

P.S.: Keith Richards' daughter Theodora doesn't envy Hilton's notoriety. The rock child of the Stones guitarist and former supermodel Patti Hansen is dying for her own horror movie role.

"I don't want to be another Paris Hilton," she told Webster Hall's Baird Jones at the Massimo Ferragamo exhibit "Origin: Mother and Child." "I would never do a porno video."

Side dish/

\* What well-scrubbed actor and his buddies passed the time on a chartered plane to Vegas by stoking themselves with coke? The star better hope his girlfriend doesn't find out about that stewardess.

\* "Insider" anchor Pat O'Brien celebrated the end of his rehab by rocking out at California's Coachella Valley Music Festival last weekend.

\* Robert Redford and Paul McCartney dined at Manhattan's Il Gattopardo.

\* Michael Jordan and Bill Cosby chowed down at Bravo Gianni.

\* Julia Stiles filled Carson Daly in on her movie remake plans for Sylvia Plath's novel "The Bell Jar" at the Pure Music party at 6's & 8's.

**LOAD-DATE:** May 8, 2005

# **INDEX 325**

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Copyright 2005 News & Record (Greensboro, NC)  
News & Record (Greensboro, NC)

May 8, 2005 Sunday GREENSBORO EDITION

**SECTION:** TRIAD; Pg. B4

**LENGTH:** 607 words

**HEADLINE:** NOT ON DEAD TREES

**BODY:**

Every day the News & Record publishes news and information on its Web logs, which often are not published in the newspaper. Here's a selection from last week.

Welcome to Friendship

Dear Lord, help me. I know I'm going to get hammered for the following post ...

It's not open yet, but the formerly anonymous elementary school slated for northeast Davidson County has a name: Friendship Elementary.

Davidson County's school board voted on the name at its recent meeting. The only other contender was "Laurel Hill Elementary."

Why such a Mr. Rogers-worthy name? Because the school is on Friendship-Ledford Road.

Elementary schools in northeast Davidson are overcrowded due to the rapid growth of such communities as Laurel Oak Ranch. Friendship is due to open in time for the 2005-2006 school year, and it should help with the overcrowding.

OK, OK, let's get to the anti-Guilford County Schools comments that are sure to follow this posting.

- Posted 1:21 p.m. Wednesday to the North High Point/Jamestown blog by Justin Hayes

Coupon madness

I've got the mother of all coupon books for Triad residents.

The 304-page "Attractions Dining & Value Guide" has \$5,000 worth of coupons for restaurants, green fees, pet supplies, video game rentals, auto repair and lots of other stuff.

Nonprofits including churches and the Special Olympics use the \$25 books for fund-raisers.

Find out how you can get one at [www.diningandvalueguide.com](http://www.diningandvalueguide.com).

- Posted 3 a.m. Tuesday to the Bargain Blog by Michael Fuchs

Our circulation growth

Weekday and Saturday circulation is at 95,119, an increase of 426 papers, or 0.45 percent. Sunday circulation didn't fare as well, with a decrease of 1.34 percent, or 1,521 papers, to 112,154.

But in our primary circulation area of the metro Greensboro area, we're in much better shape. Weekday and Saturday circulation climbed 1,089 papers to 62,105, or 1.78 percent. Sunday went up 405 papers to 71,936, or 0.57 percent.

There are a couple reasons. We have an excellent circulation sales staff and delivery force, and we put a pretty decent newspaper on the streets, if I do say so myself.

-Posted 9:03 a.m. Wednesday to The Editor's Log by John Robinson

Runaway coverage

Maybe time will soften my heart, but I'm having trouble mustering much sympathy for the runaway bride from Duluth, Ga.

In a story that was grossly over covered ("Deadly insurgent bombings continue in Iraq, but first, more on the bride-to-be whose ice-cold feet took her all the way from Georgia to New Mexico"), Jennifer Wilbanks, 32, apparently had second thoughts about marrying John Mason in a wedding big enough to fill a Wal-Mart.

The latest plot twist: The jilted groom still wants to marry her ... even after she went jogging last week and just kept on running. Wilbanks cut her hair, hopped on a bus to Vegas and then Albuquerque, led police and the FBI on a frantic, multi state bride-hunt, concocted a story that she'd been abducted ... admitted that she'd made the tall tale up, then returned to Georgia with a towel over her head.

Her town's mayor now says she may seek to [sue] Wilbanks for the estimated \$60,000 to \$100,000 cost of [the search]. Wilbanks also may be prosecuted for falsely claiming she'd been kidnapped.

Now, I don't wish this couple any ill will, but I wouldn't bet on the longevity of this marriage ... in Vegas or anywhere else.

-Posted by Allen Johnson at 1:41 a.m. Tuesday to Thinking Out Loud

Not from Dead Trees is compiled by Lex Alexander, the News & Record's citizen-journalism coordinator. Contact him at 373-7088 or [lalexander@news-record.com](mailto:lalexander@news-record.com).

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